FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq fired eight surface-to-surface missiles at the city of Dezful late on 6 March inflicting "extensive casualties and damage," IRNA reported. Preliminary investigations showed 5 dead and 70 injured following the attack, the agency noted. In response to the attack on Dezful, an Iranian Armed Forces communique cited by the agency announced that Iranian forces would launch "artillery and aerial attacks" against the Iraqi cities of Basra and Mandali at 1130 GMT on 7 March, and advised residents to evacuate these cities.

Meanwhile, Iraq announced that its artillery began shelling the Iranian city of Abadan early on 7 March, according to INA. During the 3-hour attack three people were killed and five others wounded, IRNA disclosed.

Lebanon

An explosion in the Riyad al-Sulh area of Beirut killed 7 people and wounded 10 others, Beirut radio announced on 6 March. In the south, the IDF clashed with the Lebanese Army on 7 March at the village of Kawthariyat al-Siyad, some 10 miles south of Sidon, according to a Lebanese Army Command communique broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio. Israeli tanks shelled Army positions in the village, the communique said, and the Lebanese returned the fire. Jerusalem radio had earlier reported that three "terrorists" were killed in clashes with the IDF and the army of southern Lebanon. In another development affecting the south, the Iranian Majlis approved a budget allocation of 1 billion rials to aid the "deprived and oppressed people of Lebanon," according to Tehran radio.

Meanwhile, the commander of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces sounded a cautionary note about relations with Syria during a news conference reported by Voice of Lebanon radio. Syria must prove that it can establish relations with Lebanon in a manner that does not infringe the latter's independence and sovereignty, he said, and the Phalangists "absolutely do not understand" calls for unity with Syria or for the Syrian Army's deployment in Beirut.

Egyptian-Jordanian Talks

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn held a news conference, broadcast by Cairo radio, following talks concerning coordinated moves to solve the Palestine issue. Mubarak repeated his call for the United States to hold talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to prepare for future steps. He denied making statements that the PLO would not be part of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and reiterated that the PLO "is everywhere." Asked about amendments to the PLO-Jordanian agreement, King Husayn declared that there have been no "amendments," only "clarifications." While Mubarak stated that he will stress the importance of "dialogue" during his upcoming talks in the United States, King Husayn concluded that there is a "very narrow window of hope" for resolving the Palestine problem and "this is the last chance."

Reacting to the meeting between President Mubarak and King Husayn, "political sources" in Jerusalem reiterated that Israel insists on "direct negotiations" with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that does not include PLO representatives, Jerusalem radio reported. They contended that negotiations between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would be "unacceptable" to Israel and the United States.

PLO

Executive Committee — The PLO Executive Committee met in Tunis to discuss the results of the recent talks between King Husayn and a Palestinian delegation, which conveyed a message to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat from Husayn, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

Armed Struggle — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told *DER SPIEGEL* in a recent interview that he would decline any offer for the PLO to fight Israel from the territory of neighboring Arab states, asserting that no matter how many fighters the PLO could muster, it would "not have a chance" against Israel's military might.

Abu Nidal — The Paris magazine *AFRIQUE ASIE* claimed that an interview with Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, published by FRANCE PAYS ARABES in February was a fake because Al-Banna could not have been in Lebanon at the time the interview reportedly took place, according to AFP. *AFRIQUE ASIE* contended that Al-Banna has been receiving medical treatment in Eastern Europe during recent months.

Libya

Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio announced that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a number of Lebanese and Palestinian leaders including Walid Junblatt, head of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, and Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, leader of the Fatah dissident movement.

Sudan

More than 200 Sudanese soldiers were killed on 3 March when they attempted to recapture Jokau from the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the clandestine SPLA radio reported.

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FRANCE PAYS ARABES Interviews Abu Nidal

PM061009 Paris FRANCE PAYS ARABES in French No 124 Feb 85 pp 10-14

[Interview with Fatah-Revolutionary Command leader Sabri Al-Banna, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Nidal, by Lucien Bitterlin in Al-Biqa' on 6-7 February]

[Text] [Bitterlin] Abu Nidal, at the international level you are known primarily as the leader of a terrorist organization. You carry out resistance activities, but you are best known for a series of attacks committed throughout the world against Palestinian representatives and Arabs. You were also behind what, to some extent, prompted the Israeli offensive in Lebanon in 1982, in other words the attempt to assassinate the Israeli ambassador in London. Can you give us your feelings on the reasons for these terrorist operations, and do you claim responsibility for a number of them, ranging from 'Izz al-Din Qalaq to Kawasimah and including the Jordanian diplomats?

[Abu Nidal] We have been following a revolutionary line in the Arab nation since the birth of the Fatah movement in 1962. Our fight against the enemy coincided with that of the PLO, which was created 1 January 1965. Our program specified that there could be no settlement with, recognition of, negotiation, or conciliation with the Zionist movement, and that was final.

This faction of the Fatah movement does not belong personally to Abu Nidal, it is based on the memory of the Palestinian Arab people and the people of the Arab nation.

This is very clear to all the political forces in the Arab world. Palestine is becoming the central cause in the programs of all the parties (the Ba'th Party, Al-Nasirism, communist). It is an element of unification and not division in the Arab nation and will lead to a people's democracy in our country.

Our organization, the Fatah-Revolutionary Command, has expressed its principles very clearly and has decided to condemn to death all those who have tried to negotiate with the Zionist enemy, or in other words, oppose the Palestinian revolution, be they Palestinians or Arabs. We have executed dozens of people whom we have condemned to death and we claim responsibility for their elimination.

[Bitterlin] Can you name a few?

[Abu Nidal] I must explain that we never execute those who have deviated from the Palestinian charter or Fatah's program before they have been advised to end their relations or contacts with the Zionists. Moveover we use mediators and even relatives for that. This was true of Isam Sartawi. We had told his father to tell him to sever his relations with the Zionists, but the son did not listen to his father.

Moreover, here is a specific example: In 1981 contacts were established between 'Arafat's movement and the Zionists. Mahmud 'Abbas, "Abu Mazin," was given the job of establishing contact with Isam Sartawi, Abu Dawud [Dawud 'Awdah], and Sabri Jiryes. They formed a working group to establish those relations.

[Bitterlin] Who were those Israelis? Were they peace campaigners like Peled and Avneri?

[Nidal] At the end of 1981, Abu Dawd came to see us on Sartawi's behalf, apologizing for his offense against the Palestinian people. He admitted that the Zionists had deceived him, and he suggested that we launch an operation against them. We drew up a joint plan to that end. After 1 month, we observed that Abu Dawd, Abu Mazin, Sartawi, and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] were trying to "trap" our organization in an agreement with the Zionist leaders, and to destroy us. We discovered the plot. We thwarted it and sentenced Sartawi.

[Bitterlin] Not Abu Dawd?

[Abu Nidal] No. The Israeli ambassador in London was one of the men who had drawn up that abortive plan against us. As for Jordan, we had decided to stop attacks on it for several years because the political circumstances were not right. We were waiting for the emergence of favorable people's movements on the West Bank to take up the fight. We must not forget that the territory historically situated on the West Bank of the Jordan belongs to Palestine and that Palestine belongs to Syria socially, geographically, and politically.

We do not accept the situation that is being imposed on us. We regret this situation (Israel and the Kingdom of Jordan) because it is the result of foreign imperialism. We want the transformation of the Kingdom of Jordan. However, Jordan has exploited the Palestinian people's weak position to its own benefit. It has hit out at the revolutionary forces and our organization in particular.

We responded and we are defending our rights. Most of the operations carried out in Jordan (they are attacks on prominent Jordanians) are carried out by us. However, the Jordanian regime does not announce all of them, and neither do we.

In the past 3 months we have sentenced to death 27 members of the Jordanian intelligence services. Regarding Fahd Kawasimah, Black September claimed responsibility for his execution. We are not saying whether we were involved or not, but we do not regret the execution of those who abandon the Palestinian cause for some position or advantages, and who betray our people.

Our organization has decided to execute King Husayn. There have been a few attempts which have failed, but we will continue until we succeed. There are two alternatives: Either he submits to the revolutionary forces' will or he will be killed. The Jordanian regime is based on the tribal system and on imperialist support. Despite that, there is no guarantee that it will continue to exist and remain in power.

Regarding the Israeli pacifist forces, there are really no such forces that aim to restore peace. However, the Zionists have devised propaganda methods to divide their adversaries and win Palestinians over to their side without giving anything in return, in order to prevent the continuation of the armed struggle.

In practical terms, everything that is Israeli is, without exception, Israel's "accomplice." The Israeli pacifists are used by Israel to

"demobilize" the Palestinian fighters. The Zionists have always rejected the formation of an Arab state in which the Jews could live.

It should be explained that this Arab state — a multiconfessional state proposed by the Palestinian revolutionary movement — would form part of Syria which is part of the Arab homeland, since Palestine has not been an independent state for 2,000 years. Palestine lived under colonial regimes and is a region of the Arab homeland. Here is an example to clarify things, for what it is worth: A socialist country suggested a meeting be arranged with Rakah, the Israeli Communist Party. However, we refused because it is a component of the Zionist state. We told our socialist interlocutor that we could talk with Rakah provided it withdraws its representatives from the Knesset, declares the Zionist state to be illegitimate, adopts a political program hostile to Israel, and joins us in the total destruction of the Zionist state. It was difficult for a political party to accept these conditions. We definitely do not believe that there is a Zionist force that is sincerely seeking peace. They are only pretexts. We note that Israel does not have the necessary qualities for its own existence, whereas history has taught us that we are Palestinian Arabs.

We told the socialist mediator from an Eastern-bloc country that we, who were having discussions with sociologists, knew that in the Kremlin Andropov, in the fourth resolution under his rule [as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee], had set up anti-Zionist committees in the USSR.

Consequently, how could they ask us to establish relations with Rakah, we replied to our socialist interlocutor? We repeat that there will never be peace unless the Zionist state is destroyed.

[Bitterlin] You know that many people accuse you of being a Mossad agent because you have Palestinians killed. They say you are a direct or indirect agent.

In addition, are you always sure of the information given to you on the people you accuse of collaborating or having relations with the Israelis? Do you not think that, in the subversive war you are fighting, you might be deceived or manipulated by your enemies without your knowing it? There are many examples in history of agents changing sides, of provocations, the penetration of revolutionary organizations, or of liberation or resistance movements. There were examples of this in World War II, during the Algerian, and even the Lebanon war. What is your view?

[Abu Nidal] With regard to the accusations leveled at us, we believe ours is the only organization that is regarded as the most important target to be destroyed for Mossad, the CIA, or the intelligence services of the reactionary Arab regimes that have been infiltrated by Mossad or the CIA. The proof of our efficacy is the continuation of our action, which means that our organization is very revolutionary, strict, and serious. We do not think there is any possibility of our being infiltrated at the decision-making level, or at the level of the command that implements the decisions.

We are not being halted by enemy intelligence services. Instead, we have attacked them many times in the most diverse places.

We are also satisfied with our relations with the progressive forces in the world and are also satisfied with the reliability of our intelligence service, which has struck at American interests (the American "computer"). You will see that we will stage operations against the Americans this year, and the billions of dollars their forces have will not be enough to protect them.

You will see proof of what we are saying in the next few months. Even if we do not have an army or artillery, we have the right, the conviction, and the will to liberate our native land.

[Bitterlin] Is this very realistic?

[Abu Nidal] I could point out to you that General de Gaulle was not very realistic in 1940. He did not accept reality. He pursued the fight against the enemy occupier and the traitors.

[Bitterlin] Are you using Gen De Gaulle as an example of your struggle?

[Abu Nidal] Yes, because we have a great deal of respect for Gen De Gaulle.

[Bitterlin] To conclude on the question of terrorism, it seems to be mainly Arabs, and especially Palestinians, you attack. Is this not contrary to the principles of Arab unity, which is vital to any real balance of forces — a balance which is at present to the disadvantage of the Arab camp as a result of all the conflicts dividing it?

[Abu Nidal] Our targets outside Palestine are mainly Mossad targets. We are also attacked by Mossad in foreign countries. When we have succeeded in preventing the Zionists from attacking our Palestinian organization in those countries, they have, to some extent, enjoyed neutral status. If you look at a map, you see that there are countries that have not had attacks on their territory. In other words they established from the start that there should be no terrorist operations on their territory by us or the Zionists. Our aim is not to carry out attacks in foreign countries. For instance, if the Zionists plan a terrorist operation against us in France, we will respond.

We respect French opinion and France's security, but we ask it to respect our rights in turn. In the Arab sphere things are more delicate. This is because there is a propaganda campaign being waged against us and we do not think the fight between us and the reactionary forces in the Arab world will end. In other words we have rights in the Arab countries of which we are citizens. Our relations with those countries are different from our relations with foreign countries — friendly countries, neutral countries, on those having disagreements with us. At the Palestinian level, there are disagreements between two factions. Why are we in conflict with Yasir 'Arafat? We can tell you that we now form a revolutionary court for the Palestinians, those who committed crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese population in Lebanon, those who committed theft and crimes, and caused destruction in Lebanon. We will pursue the perpetrators of these crimes and restore the stolen property to the victims.

In the next few days we will anounce measures aimed at doing this. We are in contact with our brothers in Abu Musa's "Storm"

organization with the aim of unifying the Fatah movement. At the same time, we are having dialogue with seven Palestinian organizationsin order to form the United National Front grouping all Palestinian nationalists — which is not the enlarged front with George Habash or George Hawatimah.

This is an example for foreign countries. We respect Switzerland until the Zionist enemy breaks this neutrality. However, if the Zionists attack Palestinians, we will respond on Swiss territory.

[Bitterlin] Were you responsible for the attacks that took place in France, the attack on the Rue Copernic synagogue in October 1980, the Rue des Rosiers shooting in 1982, or the Rue Cardinet car bomb?

[Abu Nidal] With regard to the operations carried out on French territory, we say that there are French organizations that are staging attacks with targets they have chosen. This does not concern us. The operations we may have carried out in the past against some targets might seem to be civilian targets, but in fact they were "covers" for the Zionists. However, we have not carried out operations on French territory for a long time, and especially not since France withdrew its troops from the multinational force in Lebanon.

Things are changing in a positive way in France, and the French are beginning to have a better understanding of our position. We think this is true of President Mitterrand. We also think the Guallists have played a role in this connection, which helps France's interests and its relations with the Arab world. We also think that France is more independent of the United States.

[Bitterlin] Could you state whether you have relations with organizations such as Direct Action, the Red Brigades, the Japanese Red Army, or Carlos?

[Abu Nidal] We have relations with all the revolutionary forces in the world, but it must be realized that relations and links with these forces are subject to very precise rules. There are progressive revolutionary forces with which we are in contact, but we are not responsible for their activities. At the international level, when we conduct operations, we do not make them claim responsibility.

In the Arab framework we have relations with most of the various revolutionary organizations, such as the socialist forces and the progressive Muslim forces. For our part, we respect their orientation, their struggle, and their courage.

[Bitterlin] Do you have groups [comites] that have fought in Lebanon or are continuing to fight there? What operations are you conducting in Israel or in the occupied territories?

[Abu Nidal] We have conducted specific operations in the occupied territories of Palestine, but responsibility for them has been claimed by other organizations, such as 'Arafat's. To take Jerusalem as an example, there was the Rue George V operation a few months ago. The proof that we are responsible for this attack is that for the first time Israel wishes to execute our two fighters, whom they took prisoner. There are international pressures for our friends not to be sentenced to death, and Jibril's PFLP-General Command organization, which is holding two Israeli prisoners, has threatened to kill them if Israel executes the Fatah-Revolutionary Command fighters.

We are going to conduct operations that will be much more distinct than previously. There is going to be a very considerable development of our organization. In accordance with our development's dialectical logic, we are going to assert ourselves at a higher level.

[Bitterlin] Can you in fact give us some explanation of Fatah-Revolutionary Command, the organization, and its strategy, and, above all, are you Marxist or nationalist?

[Abu Nidal] We are a nationalist, democratic, and people's organization, influenced by Arabism, which enjoys the support of the most working class social sectors.

Among the command and Arab intellectuals, thinking ranging from that of the Imam 'Ali to that of Abu Zayd Ja'fari constitutes the bases of our ideology. We believe that certain aspects of Marxism have been influenced by these Arab thinkers. Marx studied the history of the Qarmatians, who once set up a kind of socialist state in Mecca. In London there are Arab works of this school annotated by the author of "Das Kapital."

Our philosophy is based on moral values of equality between man's rights and duties. We do not follow the materialist, personal, and temporary aspects of Communists today who merely pay lip service to Marxism.

We are following the Marxist revolutionary experiments, especially those which triumphed. However, we maintain our nationalist character. Moreover, we could discuss this at length. We also follow the Marxists Ho Chi Minh, Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Che Guevara and so forth. However, with regard to internationalism, we ask the question: Where is the international Red Army which would have the duty of fighting alongside us against Zionism? The Arab nation supported the Vietnamese revolution against imperialism with its progressive, nationalist, socialist, and Marxist elements. so we ask the question: What has Vietnam done to combat the Zionists and American imperialists? In our view this notion of internationalist Marxism no longer exists.

[Bitterlin] Can you continue your description of Fatah-Revolutionary Command, and define its strategy?

[Abu Nidal] Our strategy is based on Fatah's program:

1. Total destruction of the Zionist entity;

2. Participation in Arab unity, the path of pan-Arabism;

3. Building a democratic, people's regime in which Palestine is a homeland;

4. The people's war is the means of attaining these objectives;

5. The whole Arab nation's commitment to securing the liberation of the occupied land;

6. Establishment of relations with all progressive forces that believe in our cause.

Our command is divided into two parts, one secret and the other public. This command comprises a secretariat headed by a secretary general, and a deputy secretary general, who also has a deputy.

This command implements the decisions made by a bigger "legislative" council whose members are not known. This is a provisional stage which can change according to the circumstances. For instance, Abu Nidal is not the organization's secretary general.

With regard to financial matters, we formed "Fatah economic establishments" from the start to secure self-financing which is vital to our independence. This is one of the points on which we disagree with Yasir 'Arafat, who is seeking funds from reactionary, oil-producing Arab countries. After our break with 'Arafat we created more "economic establishments" enabling us to preserve our autonomy, without depending on other people.

We have also obtained funds by insisting that the amirs finance our organization too. In Fatah-Revolutionary Command there are many "leaders" who are unknown to the public and who will probably later have greater responsibility than I.

[Bitterlin] Why do you not consider Israel a state, strictly speaking?

[Abu Nidal] Historically, when Palestine was occupied in ancient times, there never used to be a Jewish nation. The Jews have no recognized identity that justifies their forming a state, inasmuch as they came from a multitude of foreign countries and have differing nationalities. When one says "Jewish" it is a religious denomination, like Muslim.

What is the common denominator that unites them? It is the Zionist plan supported by U.S. imperialism, which has succeeded in exploiting the circumstances of the international situation and the revolutionaries' weakness on a world scale. Despite the Camp David accords, the Egyptian regime is finding no solution (to the Palestine question). There has been no solution of the Near East conflict because the Zionists oppose the Arab revolution. Palestine is the most important part of the Arab awareness and it cannot be challenged because it is part of their "heritage."

The Near East conflict is a problem not of means but of time. As a revolutionary force fighting for Arab unity, our organization is starting to become more and more effective. The destruction of the Zionist state will be the result of the unity of the Arab revolutionary forces and peoples.

However, the Zionists could exploit circumstances with their U.S. allies, especially if there are divergences and splits within the Arab camp.

In conclusion, one can say that it is impossible for the Zionist state to exist in the future. It is futile to talk about peace as long as it remains (in Palestine).

[Bitterlin] You often talk about U.S. imperialism. In your opinion, who is directing whom: Israel or the United States?

[Abu Nidal] It is the joint U.S.-Zionist capital controlled by the U.S. people that is in charge. It believes it can direct the Zionist entity in the Arab world as a tool serving its own interests. The Zionist state has succeeded in attaining certain objectives in the Arab world. Arab oil is part of the joint U.S.-Zionist plan.

[Bitterlin] Does Arab oil service U.S. and Zionist interests?

[Abu Nidal] Yes. Therefore, in Lebanon in 1982 the U.S. domination of the Arab countries was maintained thanks to the Zionist military involvement. They have the capacity to dominate people, start wars, and to spark off conflicts such as that between Iraq and Iran.

This Gulf war is absorbing all Arab resources instead of their being allocated to combating the Zionists.

[Bitterlin] You talk a great deal about "imperialism," "Zionism," and "capitalism," but there is also the human factor. There are communities living in Israel in the occupied Arab territories. They are both Jews and Arabs. Do you not believe that at the beginning it would have been possible for the two states — Israel and the Palestine established on the West Bank and in Gaza and East Jerusalem — to coexist if the Zionists had agreed to free the territories acquired by force in 1967 and had played the peace card to protect their security? This would have been a first step toward the two states' coexisting side by side and continuing to do so. In the coming decades it is to be expected that borders will disappear and that states will merge into multiconfessional or multiethnic groupings.

[Abu Nidal] For the past 40 years there have been advocates of the principle of small steps, such as the Palestine Communist Party and President Bourguiba. This small-steps theory began as a viewpoint but has become a theory. It has even won over Yasir 'Arafat's command. The best known theoretician who talks about it in relation to Marxism is Hawatimah. He has been joined by many Palestinians and Arabs. They have expressed themselves to this effect on several occasions both in joint declarations with the PLO and at conferences or Arab summits, the last of which was in Fes in 1982. However, there has been no result.

Now there is talk of an international conference including Israel, the PLO, and the other sides concerned, together with the United States and the USSR. We know that Yasir 'Arafat, Hawatimah, and their friends (Georges Habash — *FRANCE PAYS ARABES* editor's note) are waiting to see what kind of plan the EEC adopts.

We believe it will take a century for the advocates of a gradual approach to obtain results from the first stage!

[Bitterlin] So are you skeptical about this eventuality?

[Abu Nidal] We know there is an international conflict, and we are used by one side or the other. We are the tools in the hands of one side or the other.

[Bitterlin] If Israel were to cease to exist, what would happen to the Israelis? They would be left in an Arab Palestine. Would they have to leave, like the French who had to leave Algeria on independence?

[Abu Nidal] The Jews who are not "Palestinians," who came from elsewhere, would have to return to their countries of origin.

[Bitterlin] Including Russia?

[Abu Nidal] Of course. As you are aware, despite the Algerian experience, it must be realized that the situation is worse for Jews who have come from over 30 countries worldwide. Because the French who lived in Algeria belonged to a single nation and doubtless to the same religion. For France, which has a civilization, history, and human heritage, the establishment of a colony of people in Algeria was merely an exceptional case, different from its colonization in Africa and Asia.

[Bitterlin] Could you talk about the future?

[Abu Nidal] In the future, Palestine will be an integral part of Syria. Palestine's liberation and unity with Syria are a matter of dialectics. There can be no doubt about this.

[Bitterlin] So, no independent state but, rather, a merger with Syria?

[Abu Nidal] It is a strategic objective of our organization.

[Biterlin] On the tacitical plane, do you want the Israelis to live in insecurity forever?

[Abu Nidal] We want the non-Palestinian Jews to leave and we want the return of Arab or Jewish Palestinians.

[Bitterlin] Do you believe that Syria is still in favor of your organaization's line? It has ratified the Fes revolutions, but if it were to reach an agreement with Israel for the liberation of the territories occupied in 1967, do you believe it would still agree with you?

[Abu Nidal] We believe that there is a major difference between a solution of the conflict and the liberation of the Golan Heights, just as in the case of the provisional cease-fire in Lebanon and a strategic settlement. We do not believe that the Syrian command accepts or intends to accept a settlement with Israel. We believe that President Hafiz al-Asad will play a major role but will be opposed to any kind of capitulation.

In line with his conception of the future of Palestine, Syria, and the Arab nation, he is opposed to any negotiated solution. We do not believe that the Camp David accords can go beyond a cease-fire agreement that will be abandoned in a few years' time. The Egyptians who demonstrated in Cairo outside the Israeli stand at the international book fair have shown that there can be no "normalization" with Zionist Israel. What is happening in Egypt now confirms our view of the future of the conflict. We never talk about Syria from the tactical viewpoint or from the viewpoint of national interests. We speak as Syrians or Arabs. The fighters who join us in our fight have as their aim the strengthening of Syria's might, because imperialism has tried to destroy Syria. We also support Lebanon, which is part of Syria.

[Bitterlin] In all this do you take account of the East-West balance? Are you not risking upsetting East-West relations by giving too much importance to the USSR in this region, which the Americans obviously reject?

[Abu Nidal] It is very important to maintian the East-West balance. However, we are keen that it be maintained for the benefit of the USSR, and we want to develop our relations with the USSR still further. During President Andropov's time we were trusted to strengthen Arab-Soviet relations. There is a definite improvement in favor of the Lebanese and Palestinian cause. We hope that Soviet aid will be stepped up in our favor, but we are keen to specify that we do not agree with the Soviets over their peace plan.

[Bitterlin] What is you opinion of the situation in Afghanistan?

[Abu Nidal] It is the responsibility of U.S. imperialism, which threatens the USSR's internal security. So what is the solution? It must evolve in line with the international situation.

[Bitterlin] How far do you intend to go to ensure victory for your cause?

[Abu Nidal] We believe that 1984 was an important year in the anti-Zionist struggle. It showed that it is possible to win if the Arab revolutionary forces are united, which was the case in southern Lebanon with the Lebanese, Syrians, Palestinians, and Libyans. If we wage the struggle on several fronts — diplomatic, military, and economic — we will have made progress. When the revolutionary forces unite and the reactionary Arab forces disappear, then we will be ready for victory.

How can victory be achieved when one considers the success of the Algerian revolution, which was based on the unification of the Arab Maghreb which has supported Palestine in its fight to defend itself? [sentence as published]

How can victory be achieved when the Algerian Government is opposed to the Algerian people's support for the Palestinian cause against the Zionist enemy?

How can victory be achieved when the Tunisian regime, which hosts the Arab League, jails Arab revolutionaries?

We appeal to Supreme Combatant Habib Bourguiba and to his prime minister, Mohamed Mzali, and ask them why they are having Arab patriots and revolutionaries arrested.

How can victory be achieved when we are seeing our comrades in Aden in Democratic Yemen allying with those who accept defeat, that is, with Yasir 'Arafat's command. We say to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad that we will find the solution to our problems with the same methods he used with the martyr Salim Rabi' 'Ali and the militants 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il, and Salim Mutawi' (executed by Democratic Yemen's current president — *FRANCE PAYS ARABES* editor's note).

As far as we are concerned, we are "Arab teachers in the democratic game."

[Bitterlin] When will the ideal Palestinian state exist, and how do you envisage it? Will it be Ba'thist or a people's democracy?

[Abu Nidal] It will reflect the conditions that ensue from the evolution of our homeland's liberation. Our conception of people's democracy takes account of our nationalist outlook and of restored Arab unity.

This issue will be dependent on future developments.

[Bitterlin] Could it be a people's democracy?

[Abu Nidal] Maybe.

[Bitterlin] What is your opinion of Iran's Islamic revolution?

[Abu Nidal] We established good relations with the Islamic revolution some years ago. We have relations with all Iranian forces except those of Mas'ud Rajavi, whom we consider to be outside the Iranian nationalist tendency. We have points of convergence with the Islamic revolution because it was:

1. Hostile to imperialism;
2. Hostile to Zionism;
3. Hostile to the forces of domination worldwide;
4. Opposed to the shah's regime;
5. Supportive of the anti-Zionist struggle;
6. And it supports the Islamic revolutionary forces combating the U.S. forces in the region.

Moreover, we esteem the Islamic revolution's leaders. However, there are also points of divergence. These concern their view of the Arab revolution, but we believe it will be possible to end this divergence in the future.

[Bitterlin] What do you think now of France's attitude in the conflict in the Middle East and what do you expect from France?

[Abu Nidal] To conclude, we expect a great deal from France, among other things, an evolution in favor of the liberation struggle for our homeland. We expect a clear stance concerning the Zionist movement. We expect a little more independence from U.S. imperialism. We expect the French Government to realize the importance of French interests in the Arab world.

AFRIQUE-ASIE Claims Abu Nidal Interview 'Fake'

AU061315 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Paris, March 6 (AFP) — A purported interview with Palestinian extremist Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], published in a French magazine last month, was a fake, according to the latest edition of the Paris-based review, *AFRIQUE-ASIE*.

But the review added to the controversy by saying that Abu Nidal was not dead, as had been widely reported, but had been in an Eastern European country "for several months" where "he is receiving treatment."

The interview, published February 22 in the French monthly *FRANCE PAYS ARABES*, dispelled reports that Abu Nidal — the nom de guerre of Sabri al-Banna, a sworn enemy of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chief Yasir 'Arafat — had died of heart failure in Baghdad last October.

French journalist Lucien Bitterlin said the article was based on a meeting he had with Abu Nidal, 45, in the Syrian-controlled Al-Biqa' plain in Lebanon on February 6 and 7.

Mr. Bitterlin today maintained that he had interviewed Abu Nidal and said there was no chance that he had mistaken his identity as he had met the man once before in 1978.

But the director of *AFRIQUE-ASIE*, Simon Mally said it was impossible for Abu Nidal to have been in the Al-Biqa' on those dates and charged that the interview was a "compilation."

He did not, however, specify the nature of Abu Nidal's ailment or the country in which he was receiving treatment.

Mr. Malley said his information came from two "notable" founding members of Fatah, the largest PLO faction, which expelled Abu Nidal in 1974, who had known Mr. Nidal and had "closely followed" his group. He did not identify the sources.

Abu Nidal went into hiding after his split with the PLO and was sentenced to death by the organization in 1974.

He is considered along with "Carlos" one of the main brains behind international terrorism over the past decade.

Among the attacks claimed by the Abu Nidal group are the slayings of several 'Arafat supporters as well as the attempted murder in 1982 of Shlomo Argov, the Israeli ambassador in London.

The Argov attack was cited by Israel as a pretext for launching its invasion of Lebanon that year.

'Arafat Calls for New UN Resolution on Palestine

LD061017 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0717 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Paris — The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat in an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-ARABI*, published in Paris, stressed that the only solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute and the question of the Palestinian people is a new resolution issued by the United Nations and the UN Security Council. He mentioned that he does not consider the recent proposals of the Egyptian president to be an official initiative as he also pointed out that the text of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement published in Amman does not contain some of the Palestinian clarifications.

The Palestinian leader, in the interview by the director of the magazine last Saturday in Tunisia, said: "In fact there is no Egyptian initiative, but only ideas put forward by President Mubarak which we have not been officially informed about. With these ideas President Mubarak is trying to push forward the Palestinian-Jordanian march in the post-agreement stage."

He added: "We are committed to the decisions of the Palestine National Council and we are committed to the agreement we signed with King Husayn; we also rely on the Fes Summit resolutions with which we are linked as Jordan and the rest of the Arab countries are."

Regarding the statements of the American envoy Richard Murphy concerning Egypt's posture towards the PLO, 'Arafat said: "The Egyptian president is fully committed to what he has previously repeatedly declared, namely that the organization is the sole representative of the Palestinian people."

'Arafat was asked about President Mubarak's forthcoming visit to France and the United States. He said: "I do not know precisely about the French posture, however I will be meeting French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas in Tunis and I will ask for some details. As for the meeting of Mubarak with Reagan, I am not at all optimistic, the American Administration is scandalously biased towards the Israeli viewpoint."

Replying to a question about a message he received from King Fahd, 'Arafat mentioned that the Saudi monarch's envoy had informed him that there has been a tangible advancement in the American posture, in brief that Washington has begun to recognise the positive elements in the initiative about which the Arabs met in Fes."

Replying to a question connected with the Security Council's Resolution Number 242, the organization's rejection of it, and the possibility of amending this resolution, 'Arafat said: "UN Resolutions are not amendable, however there is a chance of issuing a new resolution." He added that he does not know if President Mubarak will propose such a line in his visit to Washington.

'Arafat added: "Let us all go to the United Nations. The Korean problem was solved at the United Nations, and the Cypriot problem is being solved at the United Nations. Why then does the American Administration want to keep the Palestinian problem away from UN corridors?"

PLO's Khalaf on Mubarak Initiative, Armed Struggle

DW061203 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German
4 Mar 85 pp 138-140

[Interview with Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, by *DER SPIEGEL* editor Adel S. Elias — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] *SPIEGEL*: Abu Iyad, you are Yasir 'Arafat's closest fighting comrade. Of late, he wants to solve the Palestinian problem through negotiations with Jordan's King Husayn. Do you not think that this so-called peace plan will fail in the end like all the others because of the Israelis' resistance?

Abu Iyad: We released a test balloon ...

SPIEGEL: ...I beg your pardon?

Abu Iyad: Yes. We wanted to put the Israelis in a corner, and expose their inflexibility and inability to accept peaceful ideas.

SPIEGEL: Expose, unmask — what good is that? What can you actually offer to the Israelis?

Abu Iyad: We offer to live peacefully with them, that is, with the Israelis who have expelled us from our houses and our homeland. We want to forget all the suffering and persecutions and direct our view toward the future.

SPIEGEL: So the fighter Abu Iyad has become a realistic politician?

Abu Iyad: You know, this is not a matter of individual people, such as Abu Iyad and Yasir 'Arafat. 'Arafat has reached an agreement with King Husayn, and this is not an individual act of an outsider. Politically, we back it fully.

SPIEGEL: Do you also approve of what Egyptian President Mubarak has proposed, namely, to hold a conference on the Middle East in the United States or in Egypt in the near future?

Abu Iyad: What Mubarak has said is bad news for us — a black day.

SPIEGEL: Why?

Abu Iyad: Mubarak is demanding a Jordanian delegation "in which a few Palestinians" will be allowed to be present. That is nothing other than capitulation to the Americans and Israelis. If Mubarak is already making concessions now before his arrival in the United States, what else will he have to offer? Through *DER SPIEGEL* I would like to state to Mubarak and Reagan: "We categorically reject this initiative. 'Arafat also rejects it, and they should not foster any hopes that we will ever accept it."

SPIEGEL: How about the strategy of armed struggle on which you have counted so much in the past?

Abu Iyad: If Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Egypt would allow us today to fight Israel from their territory, I would turn down that offer. My experience in Jordan and Lebanon has taught me not to return to the old strategy. No matter how many fighters I could get together, the balance of forces would be 1 to 100 in favor of the Israelis. We do not have a chance. In addition, we do not have any aircraft or tanks, or a navy.

SPIEGEL: At present, you are leaning on Jordan. What would you do if Syrian President al-Asad were to suddenly reach a reconciliation with King Husayn at your expense? In that case, you would again be the only loser.

Abu Iyad: Theoretically, that is possible. However, so far everything is working quite well with Jordan. I have the feeling that King Husayn of Jordan does not want to put reconciliation with us at risk again, because he knows very well that without us nothing will work for him, and we know very well that for our people in West Jordan [Westjordanien], we need the king.

PLO Executive Committee Discusses Amman Meeting

JN061705 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in Tunis yesterday under Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. All the Executive Committee members attended the meeting.

Our correspondent has learned that the meeting discussed the results of the talks that the Palestinian delegation held with King Husayn of Jordan.

Meanwhile, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar received a message from King Husayn of Jordan. The message was conveyed by Fatah Central Committee members Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], who returned to Tunis from Amman yesterday.

Our radio correspondent has also learned that the message deals with the recent Palestinian-Jordanian talks regarding the amendments that the Palestinian side had proposed in connection with the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement for a joint political move.

Palestinian Groups Form New Committee in Damascus

GF051440 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 Mar 85 p 20

["Exclusive" report from Damascus]

[Text] A number of Palestinisn strugglers have met in Damascus in order to review the dangers confronting the progress of the Palestinian struggle. The meeting has resulted in the formation of a committee called the "Palestinian Unionist Action Committee," to be headed by Zahdi al-Nashashibi. The meeting issued a statement signed by 102 Palestinians, including 12 PNC members.

The statment affirmed that the Amman agreement contradicts the PNC decisions, converting the Palestinian issue into an issue of borders and undermining the sole representation of the PLO and its independence.

It also revokes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and hinders the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state.

The statement also affirmed rejection of Egyptian president Husni Mubarak's initiative in whole or in part as long as it stems from the Camp David accords and leads to the liquidation of the Palestinian issue.

The statement called on all struggiers and the Palestinian leadership, especially those in Fatah movement, to cancel the Amman agreement and to create a favorable atmosphere and bases for resuming the comprehensive national dialogue in order to regain PLO unity on the basis of the PNC decisions and the Aden -Algiers agreement.

Policy Differences Within PLO Leadership Examined

PM061446 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 5 Mar 85 p 6

['Abd al-Bari 'Atwan report: "What Is Happening in Palestinian Corridors in Tunis; Redrawing of Lines Inside Fatah Movement Following Recent Developments; Signs of Silent Crisis Between Abu 'Ammar and Soviet Union"]

[Excerpts] Tunis — The halls of the Abu Nawwas Hotel in the suburb of Al-Marsa, one of Tunis' high class resorts, were crowded with directors of PLO offices abroad who rushed to Tunis to learn about the situation inside the Palestinian leadership following the "war" of statements about the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on joint moves toward peace signed on 11 February.

The main topic of discussion among those directors was how to move politically and face questions by the press and politicians in light of the disputes that have surged to the surface inside the Palestinian leadership at this critical stage when the Palestinians stand at a crossroads.

The main cause of anxiety among the directors is that any action or statement could be construed as supporting a particular course or one side against another. For this reason signs of relief were apparent on their faces when the news came of the easing of tension within the leadership circles following a meeting between Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and those critical of his signing the agreement with Jordan. The meeting was also attended by a number of Palestinian and Arab personalities, including Dr Walid al-Khalidi, Arab League Assistant Secretary General Lakhdar Ibrahimi, and Egyptian leftist political thinker Lutfi al-Khuli.

The point of difference between Fatah Central Committee members was not the agreement with Jordan as much as Abu 'Ammar's "interpretation" and his signing of the agreement without referring to the leadership and before the provisions of the agreement were endorsed by the leadership, as one senior Fatah Central Committee official said.

The opposition was led by a number of prominent members, including Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Faruq Qaddumi (Abu al-Lutf), Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin), and Rafiq al-Natshah. Those who supported the agreement were Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid (Abu al-Hawl), Khalil al-Wazi (Abu Jihad), Khalid al-Hasan, and Hani Al-Hasan. Abu Mahir [Ahmad Yamani] abstained from voting.

The crisis arising from this disagreement, escalated by press statements, especially Abu al-Lutf's statement rejecting the agreement with Jordan in its entirety, has been overcome through dialogue among the leadership members. It was agreed that joint movement with Jordan would be accepted and that there must be an agreement on the interpretation of the agreement in order to clarify certain ambiguous points. It was decided to send an emissary to the Jordanian monarch with the Palestinian interpretations. The Jordanian response to these interpetations has eased the acute differences.

A source close to 'Arafat said that any move with Jordan remains necessary as long as there are several Arab and Western circles, especially the United States, demanding a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on the ground that this constitutes a step toward peace.

However, those opposed to the agreement say that the minimum that they would accept after the long years of struggle is the establishment of an independent Palestinian state that would enable future generations to continue the struggle in all forms. Accepting anything less would be a major retreat from the principles of the Palestinian revolution.

Although those opposed to the agreement and to Abu 'Ammar's interpretations, particularly Abu Iyad and Abu al-Lutf, stress in all their private meetings that their opposition will not develop into "dissent" but is rather a kind of thinking aloud within the framework of Palestinian legitimacy; at the same time they complain that certain circles are pushing the Palestinian leadership in that direction by conveying incorrect information to Abu 'Ammar. If the efforts by these circles succeed they could result in division in The Fatah movement, which everybody rejects.

It is reported in Palestinian resistance movement circles in Tunis that the Soviet Union's "implicit" rejection of the agreement and the dissatisfaction among certain leaderships in the occupied territories with the published provisions have strengthened the position of those opposed to the agreement and demanding clearer interpretations that would confirm the fundamental Palestinian principles for a settlement.

It is also being said in Tunis that there is a crisis in relations between Abu 'Ammar and the Soviets, the strategic allies of the Palestinian revolution. The cause of the crisis goes back to the time of the Israeli siege of the resistance in Beirut, when the Soviets refused to supply them with ships in order to leave. The crisis escalated when the Soviets, for the first time in the history of Palestinian-Soviet relations, boycotted the recent PNC meetings in Amman. A Palestinian source close to 'Arafat said that last week the PLO chairman refused to receive the Soviet ambassador in Tunis who is said to have been carrying a message to 'Arafat from the Kremlin leaders. 'Arafat has not received an invitation to visit Moscow in 2 years. This is also one of the reasons of disagreement.

Perhaps the worst thing about the Palestinian disagreement is its timing. If President Mubarak has timed his peace proposals well, prior to leaving for Washington, and the Jordanian monarch chose the right time to announce his agreement with the PLO in response to European and U.S. demands to facilitatea movement toward a settlement, the Palestinian dispute has weakened the PLO's political, popular, and international standing and could lead to its exclusion from any settlement if it is allowed to continue.

Arab Labor Conference Begins in Baghdad 4 Mar

JN042022 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Under the auspices of President Saddam Husayn, the 13th Arab Labor Conference began here this evening. Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president, attended the session on behalf of President Saddam Husayn.

Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf delivered a speech in which he conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the conferees. He said: The 13th Arab Labor Conference convenes in Baghdad while our militant country is still waging a fierce war that has entered its 5th year as a result of the aggressor Iranian regime's intransigence and its insistence on expansion and aggression. Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf added: Our age is quickly proceeding on the road to scientific and technological progress, and your pan-Arab and national responsibilities dictate an effective participation in the formation of human civilization and the attainment of comprehensive development that would secure progress.This can happen through the preparation of productive Arab forces and their mobilization, given that they are an inxhaustible source capable of achieving the desired peace. Ma'ruf spoke about the Iranian regime's insistence on prolonging the aggression, recalling its recurrent crimes of killing unarmed Iraqi POW's while Iranian POW's in Iraq are being treated well. This good treatment stems from Iraq's genuine values and principles and its abidance by international conventions and charters.

Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf reaffirmed Iraq's capability and strength. He said: Our great Iraq will continue to be lofty,and capable of confronting war and aggression; it will continue achieving inevitable victory, God willing, while continuing the state of resurgence and construction in all walks of life.

GULF AFFAIRS

Kuwaiti, Omani Air Forces Hold Maneuvers

GF060518 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 4 Mar 85 p 3

[Excerpt] Official sources in Muscat said yesterday that squadrons of Kuwaiti and Omani Air Force aircraft are currently holding joint maneuvers in the southern Gulf near the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

The sources said that the maneuvers began on Thursday after the arrival of a squadron of Kuwaiti fighter planes at Thamarit Base of the Omani Air Force but they did not give more details.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Receives Yugoslav Ambassador

GF060846 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Manama, 6 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah received here today Mr Peter Kostic, the ambassador of Yugoslavia to Kuwait. The Yugoslav ambassador has earlier met with the ministers of information, development and industry, and commerce and agriculture with whom he discussed the means to bolster relations between Bahrain and Yugoslavia in various fields.

OMAN

Oil Minister on Exploration by Foreign Companies

GF061936 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] In a statement to the correspondent of the newspaper *'UMAN*, Sa'id Ahmad al-Shanfari, minister of petroleum and minerals, commented on the petroleum situation in the Sultanate and said that it is necessary to develop the discovered oil fields and to explore new sites. He said 3 new oil exploration concessions will shortly be granted to international companies, totaling 16 concessions at the end of this year instead of 13 concessions. He also said the instructions necessitate the granting of other concessions for oil drilling in 1986, so that we can survey various parts of the country.

Sa'id ibn Ahmad al-Shanfari said he was pleased to announce that the primary discoveries of minerals indicate the existence of other new sites, particularly in the Al-Akhdar mountain area, which contains copper, chrome, silver, and gold.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With PNC Speaker

GF061243 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text]Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, this morning received in his office PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and his deputy Salim al-Za'nun. During the meeting, they reviewed the good relations between the state of Qatar and the PLO, and the latest development in current Arab issues in the region, including the Palestinian issue. The meeting was attended by Yasin al-Sharif, PLO representative in Doha, and Mubarak 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dilayli, member of the Advisory Council, who is accompanying the guest.

SAUDI ARABIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Britain's Luce

Received by Commerce Minister

LD061414 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 6 Mar (SPA) — Commerce Minister Dr Sulayman al-Sulayyin this morning met with Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce who is currently visiting the Kingdom. The meeting was attended by Ministry Under Secretary for Commercial Affairs Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Zamil and British Ambassador to the Kingdom Patrick Wright.

Following the meeting the commerce minister told SPA that trade relations between the Kingdom and Britain were reviewed and the economic cooperation between the two countries was discussed. He added that agreement was reached during the meeting to expand the trade exchange between the two countries in addition to seeking the help of British experts and skilled workers, especially since the value of the pound sterling is currently suffering a sharp reduction.

The minister said that during the meeting agreement was reached on increasing areas of cooperation and broadening trade exchange between the two countries. He stressed the necessity for Britain to import goods from the Kingdom, especially petrochemicals, in return for the Kingdom's importing British goods. He pointed out that it was decided that chemical exports should continue at two levels, the official level handled by both the GCC General Secretariat and by the EEC.

Meets With Interior Minister

LD061419 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1054 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Mar (SPA) — Interior Minister His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at his office this morning British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce and the delegation accompanying him on his current visit to the Kingdom. During the meeting friendly talks were exchanged and bilateral relations were reviewed.

Received by King Fahd

GF061430 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the royal camp this afternoon Richard Luce, British minister of state for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. The meeting was attended by Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Riyadh region; 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mansuri, deputy foreign minister for political affairs; and Patrick Wright, British ambassador to the Kingdom.

Holds Press Conference, Departs

LD062134 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Richard Luce, minister of state at the British Foreign Office, left Riyadh today for Jeddah on his way home. He was seen off at the airport by 'Abd al-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, and 'Isa Nuwaysir, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and a number of officials. Before leaving, the British minister of state held a press conference at which he spoke of the nature of his talks with officials in the Kingdom and the relations between the Kingdom and Britain and a number of Arab and international issues. He affirmed that his meeting with King Fahd was extremely useful, pointing out that he discussed with his majesty a number of topics of joint interest, particularly the Middle East question and the Iraq-Iran war.

He pointed out that his talks with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal covered matters of joint interest and bilateral relations between the Kingdom and Britain and ways of consolidating them. He also spoke of his meeting with Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, which he described as useful and during which a number of issues were discussed.

Richard Luce referred to King Fahd's historic visit to the United States, saying that the talks which King Fahd had with President Reagan were useful. He pointed out that Britain welcomed the Saudi-American joint communique particularly in regard to the Arab plan approved by the Fes summit conference. He affirmed that his country's government is extremely anxious to encourage any positive proposals that may be put forward to advance the course of peace in the Middle East region.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the proposals put forward by King Husayn of Jordan in this regard, Richard Luce said that his country welcomes these proposals and attaches great importance to them.

Regarding the Iran-Iraq war, the British minister of state said that this is one of the issues discussed by the officials in the Kingdom during his current visit. The discussions, he said, also covered the diplomatic moves to end this war. He expressed his hope that an end may be found for this war as scon as possible.

On the European-Gulf dialogue on the Gulf's petrochemical imports, Luce said that he explained to the officials in the Kingdom that the British Government is interested in understanding the position of the Kingdom. He added that this matter requires orderly adjustment between the EEC and the GCC. For this reason, he said, the current European-Gulf dialogue is extremely important.

He expressed his utmost admiration for the great development achieved by the Kingdom during the recent years and the development plans of the Kingdom.

Yamani Meets With Algerian, Libyan Counterparts

LD070008 Riyadh SPA in English 1902 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, March 6 , SPA — Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani met here today with Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi and Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi al-Shakshuki.

After the meeting Yamani told reporters that they discussed current oil situations, future expectations and preservation of common interest of member states of OPEC countries. Yamani said OPEC's coming meeting will be held in June.

PDRY

Chairman 'Ali Nasir Returns From Sanaa Meeting

GF070500 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and the party and government delegation accompanying him returned to Aden from Sanaa after the conclusion of a tour that included Ethiopia, Syria, Libya, Algeria, and the northern part of the homeland.

During this tour, the chairman held talks with the leaders of these states and exchanged views with them on the situation in the Arab region in light of the recent developments in the Palestinian arena and the necessary steps to confront the hostile activities against the Arab peoples by the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary circles.

Deputy Chairman Receives DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah
GF061731 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Staff Brigadier 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today received at his office Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine [DFLP].

During the meeting Brother Nayif Hawatimah reviewed the critical political developments in the Arab region, especially in the Palestinian arena. He affirmed that the current task facing all the forces of the Palestinian revolution is to abolish the Amman agreement, not only to amend it, as this agreement undermines the constant national rights of the Palestinian people to the return, self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

He said that the attempts being made by the imperialist and Zionist forces to support their agents in the Arab region are aimed at Arabizing the Reagan agreement and at completing the implementation of the Camp David accords for the purpose of liquidating the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, abolishing the role of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and causing further division in the national Palestinian ranks.

He also expressed his extreme appreciation for the principled position of the YSP toward the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and its continuous support for the Palestinian revolution. He said that these positions are highly appreciated by the Palestinian people and the Palestinian national progressive forces.

On his part Brother Staff Brigadier 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar reiterated the position of our YSP and PDRY in support of the Palestinian issue and th struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their right to self-determination, return to their homeland, and to establish their independent state on their national soil.

He affirmed that our party will continue its unlimited support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to face and foil the imperialist and Zionist designs. He also emphasized that the Amman agreement abandons the constant national rights of the Palestinian people and abolishes the prestige and role of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said this agreement represents a grave threat to the national and political gains achieved by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO throughout their long struggle against imperialism and Zionism and threatens the PLO's prominent prestige recognized by all through the UN resolutions, which emphasize the justice of the Palestinian issue and the struggle of the Palestinian people for attaining their constant rights, and which denounce the Zionist enemy.

He affirmed that the abortion of the agreement and the victory of the Palestinian people can only be achieved through a further alliance between the Palestinian revolution and its real allies, represented by the national Lebanese movement, Syria, and all forces of the national Arab liberation movement and the socialist countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, the sincere friend of the causes of the Arab peoples and all liberation, progressive, and peace forces which harbor hostility toward imperialism and Zionism.

YAR

Yemeni Leaders Hold Talks in Sanaa 5 March
GF060510 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Brothers Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the southern part of the homeland, held a brotherly meeting at 2300 yesterday at the presidential palace during which Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad briefed his brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the results of his visits to a number of fraternal Arab countries. Many issues related to coordination and consultation between the leaderships of both parts of the homeland were discussed during the meeting within the framework of the joint unionist effort which is aimed at reuniting the homeland.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the southern part of the homeland arrived in Sanaa at 2200 yesterday on his way back from Algeria following a tour of a number of Arab countries.

PDRY Chairman Departs
GF070444 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the southern part of the homeland, left Sanaa this evening. He was seen off at Sanaa International Airport by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress; Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee; Dr Hasan Makki, adviser to the president and member of the Standing Committee; Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of the General Staff and member of the Standing Committee; and a number of brother members from the Consultative Assembly, the cabinet, and the Standing Committee.

Joint Talks With EEC Officials Held 5 March
GF060520 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpts] A session of talks was held at Central Planning Headquarters today between our country and an EEC delegation.

The YAR side was led by engineer Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, minister of development and head of the central planning organ, while the EEC side was led by Edward [words indistinct], director general of EEC external relations.

During the talks, the two sides discussed the projects the EEC is sponsoring inclusing the seed project in Ta'izz. They also reviewed the special study on the Rafidayn Valley project and Rada' Road. The two sides also discussed the possibility of increasing the EEC countries contribution to the projects to reconstruct the earthquake-stricken areas and the possibility of expanding economic cooperation in the agriculture sector and in the fields of investment, banking services, energy, science, and technology. The two sides agreed to hold further meetings in order to discuss the possibilities of cooperation in those fields, in addition to other fields, among which are tourism, civil aviation, telephone communications, and the post.

Mubarak, King Husayn News Conference After Talks
NC061526 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1348 GMT 6 Mar 85

[News conference by President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan at the Sheraton Hotel in Al-Ghurdaqah; Questioners not identified — live]

[Text][Mubarak] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I take this opportunity to welcome my brother, His Majesty King Husayn, the monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, to Egypt and to Al-Ghurdaqah. I welcome him as a brother, a friend, and a principal partner in the baisc issue of the Middle East: The Palestinian issue. I always salute his numerous contructive efforts toward reaching a final solution for the issue and toward reaching a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. I repeat my welcome. This meeting is being held within the framework of the dialogue aimed at reaching a joint concept for giving momentum to the peace process. Thank you.

[King Husayn] Your excellency, brother president. I want to repeat my extreme gratitude on my own behalf and on behalf of my brothers from Jordan for the warm welcome accorded us in Arab Egypt by his excellency my brother president, the leader of the march, and by the brothers and kinsmen here. We are among our kinsmen and brothers in our second homeland. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to meet and to consult with you about all the developments that have taken place since our most recent meeting in Aqaba, your second homeland in Jordan. I am very satisfied by what I constantly sense as a unified concept, and by the fact that we are aware that we must work with the brothers concerned for the sake of future Arab generations and for the sake of establishing a just, honorable, and permanent peace. Naturally, the conditions in this part of the world will not become what we desire them to be until the Palestinian issue is dealt with and until Palestinian rights and a Palestinian homeland are achieved. I thank you, your excellency, as you are about to travel and make moves in the service of our Arab nation's sole and basic issue. I wish you every success and I look forward to more meetings in the future with happiness, gratitude, and esteem.

[Moderator] Any questions, please?

[Question — in English] Yes, Mr President: May I ask, have you made any progress in coming to a joint approach and if so what is that joint approach?

[Mubarak — in English] Will you speak much more clearly please?

[Question — in English] Do you have a unified position between you, or are there still differences, that is, between direct negotiations versus an international conference?

[Mubarak] The fact is that we, His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan and I, share a common view. I believe there is absolutely no difference in our position. We believe that talks should begin between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. These talks will bring our views closer together and pave the way for future action. I believe that the opening of this dialogue would be the best thing that could happen now. The PLO is in contact with a number of states. It is in touch with the Soviet Union, the European states, and all nations of the world. We call on the United States to hold a dialogue with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation so that we may prepare for other steps.

[Question — in English] Your Majesty: Can you tell us, do you agree that the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation should consist of non-PLO Palestinians or of PLO members, as you agreed with Mr 'Arafat?

[King Husayn — in English] I have not at any point altered my position and feeling that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the people of Palestine and that recent events and developments have caused both the PLO and the Government of Jordan, those most closely associated with the problem, which is the root cause of instability in the entire area, that we work together for the attainment of a just comprehensive solution to the problem. And, therefore, I would like to once again say that as far as the agreement that was reached, it is really our guideline to which we are committed.

[Question —in English] Does that rule out non-PLO Palestinians on the delegation?

[King Husayn —in English] The agreement is between the Government of Jordan and the PLO, as the representative of the Palestinian people, and this is how things stand.

[Question —in English] May I just follow up? Do you endorse Mr Mubarak's suggestion that non-PLO Palestinians go to Washington?

[Mubarak] I did not say in any of my statements that the Palestinians who will participate with the Jordanian delegation are not PLO members. I did not say this in any statement. I have said more than once that the PLO is everywhere. The PLO exists on the West Bank, in Gaza, and in all countries where Palestinians reside. According to the Rabat and Arab summit resolutions, the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians. We cannot deviate from this policy, because we have no right to do so.

[Question] Your Majesty, the King: The Palestinians submitted two amendments to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. Has Your Majesty approved these two amendments? Following the discussions that took place in Amman with the Palestinian delegation, could we say that a unified Jordanian-Palestinian position exists on interpretation of the agreement that was reached?

[King Husayn] There have been no amendments to the agreement. An interpretation has been made of some provisions, but this does not alter the substance and meaning of the agreement. The PLO and Jordan are marching together toward a common goal.

[Question] Your Excellency, the President: If Israel continues to refuse to sit with 'Arafat alone, or with a joint delegation involving Jordan, do any alternative solutions exist?

[Mubarak] Indeed, we should view the issue realistically. We are not talking now about the possibility of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation sitting around a table with Israel. We want this process to be the result of dialogue. We want to be logical with ourselves, realistic and practical. It is impossible to reach a solution in one step; this is difficult. This is the nature of striving to solve the interlinked problems that affect all parts of the world. We have many examples. This is even true of the problems that arose between Vietnam and the United States. Many steps were taken before the United States sat with Vietnam in Paris and resolved the issue. Let us begin with a dialogue that can make use of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. Let us start a dialogue with the United States. Let us start with a dialogue [last word in English]. The Palestinians have talked with the entire world — the Soviet Union and all other countries. We ask that the United States initiate a dialogue with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This dialogue and the convictions and discussions resulting from it can certainly lead, given their success, to further steps. I hope this will take us eventually to peace. Thank you.

[Question — in English] Gentlemen: If I may ask both of you. The agreement between the PLO and the State of Jordan is a bit unclear, and yet the PLO is already fit to make changes in it. Israel and the United States have both said that the peace treaty appears to be one between parties in the Middle East. The United States will not be a signatory. Why now should Israel or the United States change their minds about that in view of the division that continues on the Arab side and because you recognize the United States as an important player in this? Could you please both answer in English?

[King Husayn — in English] I think my answer might take a bit of time, but I will really try to point out to the following facts: This is probably the first time, regrettably, after many years at which the sole legitimate representatives of the people of Palestine and the State of Jordan, the two Arab parties directly involved in the tragedy that has beset this area for so many years, have come together to say to the world: Here we are, ready to make our contribution, to clarify our position, hoping for your support and help for the attainment of a just and durable peace. I would like to point out that in the agreement itself, the commitment of both sides to the establishment of peace is there, the acceptance and recognition of all pertinent UN resolutions, Security Council resolutions on the Palestinian problem are there. And at the same time that the dimension of our cooperation is clear in terms of an equal relationship aiming at attaining a just and durable peace is there, committing both, the PLO as the representative of the people of Palestine, and Jordan. We have been asked for many years what is our position. We have made our move and it is up to others to make theirs now, and in particular the United States, as a superpower involved with the problem, as well as the rest of the world, and hopefully this will happen.

[Mubarak — in English] I think you have a very good answer to your question. You don't need us both. But I agree to all that his majesty said.

[Question — in English] But particularly in reference to the clarifications or amendments or whatever it is that the PLO now wishes to make in this agreement, the changes between direct talks and the international conference and all of those other variations. Why should Israel and the United States now decide that the Arab side, not just Jordan and Egypt, are willing to sit down and talk?

[Mubarak — in English] The Israelis decide?

[Question — in English] No, I said why should they now decide?

[King Husayn — in English] Why shouldn't they decide, if their objective is peace and stability in this area? If their objective is a stable area and, therefore, the impact of that stability on the rest of the world, a solution to the root cause of instability in the area? Why should their position be negative? We've been asked time and again to come up with an initiative, with a move, and furthermore, let me clarify that there are no differences, there are no changes to the agreement. There are clarifications between us and the PLO to that agreement but nothing else.

[Question — in English] Your Majesty, I would like to ask, President Mubarak has indicated that he would favor a phased process; the first phase being the dialogue that he has just discussed, with a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in Washington, followed by, I take it, if successful, direct talks with the Israelis; can you — and if it is not that successful, capped by an international conference — can you accept the phased process that President Mubarak has outlined?

[King Husayn — in English] I believe that it must be out of place for me to suggest that the major contribution has been made through the agreement itself. I share President Mubarak's feelings that the dialogue that he suggested is a very vital element for progress, and once again we are in the position of having made the first important vital moves. We have to wait for the reactions. I hope that I can make it also abundantly clear once again that Jordan is no substitute, nor can it ever be a substitute, for the Palestinians and their legitimate representative in the process leading to the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

[Question — in English] But, Your Majesty, are you able to say directly whether you would endorse, whether you would favor as a second phase, direct talks with the Israelis, if the first phase, a dialogue in Washington, was successful; can you answer that direct or not?

[King Husayn — in English] I believe that a dialogue in regard to the United States and the Palestinians and Jordan would certainly clear the air of much of the questions that are posed and have been posed without answers. We do believe that in the final analysis the umbrella of an international conference which suggested the five permanent members of the Security Council, in any event. [as heard]

May I also point out that Security Council Resolutions 242 for example, regardless of anybody else's view on this, and 338 end up with the Security Council's guarantees of any agreement. So we cannot move without the international community, and we hope that they will lend us support in our attempts to attain the just peace that we seek.

[Question — in English] Another question, If I may, Your Majesty...

[Moderator interrupts — in English] No, give a chance to your other colleagues, please.

[Question — in English] May I ask, is there a possibility when you go to Washington that instead of just speaking of a dialogue with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, has any progress been made actually on the names of the people who would be proposed to be on that delegation?

[King Husayn — in English] I do not think that we have reached that point now, but it is possible. We would like to see how the reactions are, and this and that. I think that the formation of a delegation is a possibility, obviously; but at the moment it might be premature to form a delegation to negotiate with whom and over what. In regard to the issue itself, obviously, be it an international conference or progress towards a solution, we are talking of the participation of all the parties concerned in the conflict, and in the interests of everyone concerned — every side concerned — we'll have to negotiate a solution to the problem.

[Question — in English] Your Majesty: I would like to be absolutely clear. Do you share Mr Mubarak's call for first-stage right now — first-phase negotiations that would involve the United States and you — your joint delegation; and secondly, what will you do and where will you go from here if the United States will not, as it has not in the past, recognize the PLO until they explicitly, not implicitly but explicitly, recognize 242 and say they accept it?

[King Husayn — in English] I believe that the dialogue itself is the way to deal with all the different aspects of the problem and I believe it is a must. I believe that we have made a very positive, responsible move and it is time now to see exactly what the response is. That is for Washington to decide. And besides, if you look at the agreement itself, even what we are discussing right now — the idea of the dialogue, we are talking of the Palestinian-Jordanian... [changes thought] PLO and Jordan that have signed this agreement and ratified it with the desire for the establishment of a just and durable peace with recognition and acceptance of all the pertinent UN and Security Council resolutions that we have are ready [sentence as heard]. Now it is about time for others to say whether they [words indistinct].

[Mubarak] With his majesty the king's permission, I would like to say something. The king's explanations show his total unhappiness with any difference of opinion between me and his majesty the king. But we say that we must use the agreement that we made several efforts to conclude; the one which his majesty the king concluded with our brothers in the PLO — the recent agreement. It must be used to help the cause, and must be matched by U.S. action. Dialogue does not mean negotiations. Dialogue, narrowing our differences through dialogue, and familiarizing ourselves with the different points of view during it, will definitely lead to other steps, as I said before. Ultimately, it might lead to some sort of comprehensive solution that the parties to the dialogue might consider.

[Question] Can you tell us what happened during the talks between the president and His Majesty King Husayn?

[King Husayn] Quite a bit happened. [Laughter] A great deal has also been done on the issues you raised, and on our march since our last meeting.

[Question — in English] I wanted to ask the president: Do you have any reason to believe that you will be able to pursuade the United States at this time to engage in such a dialogue, whether it means recognition or not? Is there something that you know, or is it wishful thinking about your visit there?

[Mubarak] I did not say that I can persuade the United States to undertake a dialogue. But I will hold talks with the United States and will tell them that after the positive step taken by Jordan and the PLO, the United States, as a basic partner in the peace process, must take other steps that will contribute to the peace process — namely, dialogue. I cannot be sure that I can persuade the United States, but I will talk with them and will try to explain our views on the importance of dialogue to the peace process. I also believe that dialogue is a major process, permitting each of us to understand the others and to agree on specific points so that negotiations can begin.

[Question — in English] Mr President, could you briefly summarize those words in English?

[Mubarak — in English] I like to speak in Arabic, [laughter] It is your job to translate.

[Question — in English] Your Majesty: While it is true that you now have in your hand for the first time a document forming a basis for agreement that is signed by Chairman 'Arafat, do the evident divisions within 'Arafat's organization cause you to doubt the consensus which one would assume that document could forge? Do you feel that the consensus that 'Arafat wanted to bring to you is falling apart?

[King Husayn — in English] I believe that the consensus is there and I have no reason to doubt it whatsoever, and that we will move as partners for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in our part of the world.

[Question — in English] Do you face the question of exactly which PLO it is that you are bringing to negotiations?

[King Husayn — in English] There is only one PLO, which we all recognize.

[Question] Your Excellency, Israel has rejected the proposal for a dialogue between the United States and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. What is your opinion?

[Mubarak] That is only natural. Any proposal must face opposition. But dialogue and discussions will certainly permit us to arrive somewhere. Furthermore, a dialogue with the United States is not tantamount to negotiations; it is only an exchange of views, prior to beginning another process. From our standpoint

in Egypt, we are holding a dialogue with Israel in this same context.

[Question] Your Majesty, the King: How true are press reports that meetings took place between Jordanian and Israeli officials in Egypt?

[King Husayn] Nothing of the sort took place, and I can categorically deny it.

[Mubarak] These are published merely for amusement.

[Question] Don't you expect Syria's reaction to hinder the proposed dialogue involving the PLO, Jordan, and the United States? Does your proposal, as well as the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, mean — in one form or another — that the idea of an international conference is gone, or ruled out for the present?

[Mubarak] No, we never said anything about ruling out the international conference. I said: Let's start with a dialogue, and maybe it will lead to actions that will help produce a comprehensive solution to the issue. We ask God to let direct negotiations follow this. May God let the dialogue lead to limited negotiations. May God permit negotiations among a number of states. May God allow negotiations on an international level. Let there be what will be. But the dialogue we start will narrow our differences and will lead to the start of negotiations. I repeat the word dialogue. We have no secrets concerning our meeting with Israeli delegates in Egypt. As for Syria, with all respect and esteem, it is Syria that is attacking the agreement. I don't know why. I pray to God: May we in the Arab world, instead of attacking one another and the agreement in order to thwart it, present an alternative. They all agreed at the latest summit conference in Fes that the problem must be solved peacefully. Therefore, as long as the Arab nation is convinced of this, we must work for peace. If I object to anything, I must present an alternative to it. To object only for the sake of objecting won't lead to any solutions. It will only complicate the problem and lead it to a deadlock; that's where things will end. Does anyone think we shouldn't recover our land? We all want to recover our land. Therefore, we must think rationally. What has happened since 1948? We must not reject. We must be rational, logical, and practical. We must learn from what has happened to the Palestinian issue since 1948. Facing rejection with rejection is dangerous to the issue and to the Arab nation. We must be logical. Our alternative is to propose a substitute for anything we reject. We must ask: What is the alternative? It must be a logical alternative. Enough. Thank you.

[Question — in English] Mr President, the United States has had its fingers burned more than once recently over Middle East initiatives. Will you be making a direct plea to the President this time to become directly involved in this new initiative, and if so, what assurances can you give him that if he did enter the peace initiative that there would be a solid foundation, and that this one would not go up in smoke like all the rest?

[Mubarak] [laughing] I don't know if the United States is a great power. Great powers have their interests. Even states like ours have interests in certain areas and they must bear up and not despair. They must have hope and must act. As for the guarantees we must give U.S. President Ronald Reagan or anything like that, let's leave that for my talks with the U.S. President.

[Question — in English] Would His Majesty also like to respond to that?

[King Husayn — in English] I forgot the question.

[Question — in English] Would you, sir, also be able to ...[changes thought] I mean do you feel in a position to be able to offer the United States assurances that if it becomes involved in this new initiative, that it is doing so on solid ground from which you could develop further and move the process forward?

[King Husayn — in English] I believe that I can say that as far as the Palestinian constituency is concerned, that is represented by the PLO and Jordan — the people most directly involved in the issue — with the support of the rest of the Arab world, certainly the overall majority of Arabs, that we have made our moves. As for the United States, it is up to it as a superpower to assess, and at the same time I hope it will come to the conclusion that there is a very narrow window of hope for resolving this problem that has affected so many in this area and maybe the world. If it is not taken as an opportunity to deal with this problem now, I believe that this may be the last chance. In point of fact this is the last chance. So I cannot guarantee anything in advance. I can guarantee my words and I believe I guarantee the word of those who have chosen to agree with me, and by that I do not mean me personally, but our people in terms of indicating our determination to do what we could for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area. With (?regard to) all the other points of the agreement now as far as the United States is concerned, it is up to the United States to decide what it wishes to do.

King Husayn Leaves Al-Ghurdaqah

NC061621 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Jordan's King Husayn left Al-Ghurdaqah this evening after his meeting with President Husni Mubarak. They discussed the latest developments in the Middle East in light of President Husni Mubarak's initiative.

Mubarak Leaves Al-Ghurdaqah

NC061939 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his delegation left Al-Ghurdaqah for Cairo after meeting with Jordan's King Husayn. The talks between Mubarak and Husayn dealt with the Middle East situation, the Palestinian issue, and the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement.

FRG Defense Minister Arrives in Cairo 6 Mar

NC070615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2253 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Mar (MENA) — FRG Defense Minister Dr Manfred Woerner arrived in Cairo tonight at the head of a

delegation on a 4-day visit to Egypt. The FRG guest was received upon arrival by Major General 'Umar Hammad, commander of the central zone, as well as by ranking armed forces' officers.

Mubarak Receives FRG Minister

NC070757 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0744 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo 7 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received this morning West German Defense Minister Dr Manfred Woerner. Present at the meeting were Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and FRG Ambassador Dr Kurt Mueller.

The German defense minister arrived in Cairo last night on a 3-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah.

New Zealand Interior Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC062227 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 6 Mar (MENA) — Peter Tapsell, New Zealand's minister of internal affairs, and his delegation arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day visit to Egypt. He was received by Assistant Interior Minister Major General Muhammad Ra'fat, and Major General Muhammad Fakhr al-Din, director of public relations at the Interior Ministry.

Agreement Signed With Uganda on Nile Authority

NC070957 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Mar d 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Mar (MENA) — Max Choudry, Ugandan minister of lands, minerals, and water resources, left Cairo for home this morning at the end of a 10-day visit to Egypt, during which he was received by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and met with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Choudry held a news conference at which he praised the progress achieved in Egypt in irrigation, industry, and agriculture, particularly the agricultural projects in Ismailia areas.

He described his talks in Cairo as successful and said that he will report on these talks to the Ugandan president and will convey to him President Mubarak's invitation to visit Egypt soon.

The news conference was held after he and Egyptian Irrigation Minister Engineer 'Isam Radi signed a joint communique on cooperation between Egypt and Uganda. Choudry said that the Egyptian, Ugandan, and Sudanese ministers of irrigation and water resources will meet in Uganda in May to draw up a complete concept for setting up a joint technical committee to be the nucleus of the Nile Valley authority to include the nine Nile littoral states.

Engineer Radi said that the establishment of the Nile states authority, which initially consists of three states, is an encouraging beginning and that other Nile valley states will join it later. He said that discussions are under way with all the countries concerned to join this authority, noting that the Burundi agriculture minister will discuss this during his visit to Cairo next month.

Engineer Radi said that studies have been made to benefit from every drop of water for agricultural projects in Egypt and not to waste any drop of it.

UKTUBAR Editor Interviews President Mubarak

PM061111 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 3 Mar 85 pp 10-15

[Interview with President Husni Mubarak by Chief Editor Salah Muntasir in Cairo on 9 February]

[Excerpts] He was supposed to receive me for a few minutes on 9 February. Part of his program that day was devoted to receiving the new appointees in the press.

I was fortunate to be at the bottom of the list of appointments. Thus the 15 minutes alloted for the meeting extended to 95 minutes.

And from the moment I took my place in the chair facing the president at his office in Qasr al-Qubbah I switched on the recorder.

Laughing, he asked: Did you come to take an interview?

I said: Mr President, sitting with you is an opportunity every minute of which should be exploited.

He said: But they would say that you have come in order to flatter me.

I said: This, Mr President, would mean that every interview with you by a journalist would fall within this category. Nevertheless, I will let the questions themselves supply the answer to this. There was then the following dialogue:

Mr President, have you changed? After 3 and ½ in office how much do you feel you have changed?

Smiling quietly, he said: You must put this question to those who have been with me for a long time. They would certainly know if I have changed or not.

I said: Mr President, in any position one feels the change inside one. Previously you were vice president for 6 years; it is a difficult and taxing position.

Interrupting, he said: Yes, it used to be difficult and taxing because I used to work 20 hours or more in every 24 hours.

I said: Which makes me ask: Have your worries, or let me say burdens, as president of the republic, changed?

President Mubarak said: There is no doubt about it, because no responsibility falls on the vice president. The decisions are made by the president. When I was vice president my task was to convey to the president the views I heard and to put the

situation to him from its various aspects, but the final decision was his. Consequently, the president has to shoulder all the worries since he is the man who is making the decisions. The vice president does not make decisions which are signed by him and are put into effect. The decision is for the president.

Mr President, if you were to go back to the early days of your responsibility could you try to recall the most important problem that you faced.

He said: I believe it was the problem of the demand by some people for complete change, and their insistence upon this. If you looked at what they said you would realize that most of it was purely a matter of settling personal scores and nothing else. But a ruler should not have personal scores to settle with anybody.

I said: Does this mean that you do not believe in the need for change?

The president said: Naturally I am not in favor of difficult or forced change; everything should take its natural course. In order for those around you to work and to produce it is necessary that they feel assured as long as they work sincerely. The state consists of many and varied organs and institutions. No head of state or anybody for that matter, even in a dictatorial regime, can effect the comprehensive change which some people have been talking about. Some of the parties that are demanding change include certain personalities whose history goes back to the days of the National Union and of the Arab Socialist Union [ASU]. Therefore, according to the concept of comprehensive change they are talking about these people must disappear. Why is it that when they talk about change they point to others but exclude themselves?

The president added: This means that if comprehensive change is desired then it should affect all the factions; it does not mean affecting one faction but not the other. If the idea is to throw out a certain group of people just in order to make a big noise, will this be in the interest of the country or of the stability that must prevail? For this reason I have endured a great deal so that things may proceed normally and so that change may take place quietly. Everyone who has completed his mission leaves the scene and hands over to others. But not with violence and force, in the manner they used to talk about. They used to say: change the parties, change the press, and change the institutions. In order to change this it would mean that I would have to change a whole generation. It would ask anyone who cares for his country's interest: Is this possible? Is it possible to throw out a whole generation and exclude it from the cycle of life? I would not possibly or conceivably do this because the life cycle must continue and this is the natural situation.

Mr President, the problem of change was something that you have been through and I think it is over. But what about your present worries?

The president said: We would be fooling ourselves if we were to consider change as an objective. The objective is to solve the major problem that has been and still is my main preoccupation since I took office. I do not think that one single day passes without it being discussed, by which I mean the economic problem and its various aspects such as increasing production, development, and alleviating hardships. I am using the term alleviate because I cannot fool the people and say eliminate hardships. Rather I say alleviate because even the big capitalist countries are facing hardships.

With regard to Egypt I have the most difficult problem — population growth. Several thousands are born daily; as they grow they need food, drink, clothing, education, housing, transportation, jobs, space to walk in the streets, parks, and means of entertainment. How can I solve this problem without an increase in production and development?

I said: Mr President, other developing countries, like Taiwan, Korea and Japan, have been able to achieve a great increase in production. As your excellency knows, production is capital plus labor. Capital may not be a problem for Egypt but in Egypt it is man who needs changing. He is the problem.

The President said: I will answer you with a question: Is it possible for any human being to press a button and change man's character?

I said: Certainly it is impossible.

The President said: It is even more so when we are faced with the accumulation of years. Impossible. Let us be realistic. We can never ignore the fact that for many long years the Egyptian man has been accustomed to a certain way of life. I cannot change this man in one day or over a number of years. The problem needs sound and continuing guidance as well as great patience.

I said: This means that the effects of most of what is being achieved now will be felt only in the future.

The president said: I could have worked for imaginary, short-term results that would be felt within 6 months or 1 year. I could have paid rewards and grants, made radical changes, and done many of the things that the people talk about, and therefore keep them preoccupied. But what would our children say? What would those people themselves say after a year's time? They would certainly find out that I was fooling them and that I had ruined their life. I do not like to fool any citizen. Maybe some rulers would like to enjoy some speedy results for their work, but Egypt's problems are so great that honesty and trust makes it incumbent upon me to solve them on a long-term basis whose results can be felt only in the future. This could happen after the end of my term of office, but the people will then realize that I did not cheat my country. For this reason we have been planning: there is a plan that we are following. This is happening in Egypt for the first time in many years. In order to lay down a plan we must set targets for it. The targets of course are to solve the economic problems, the food problem, and other problems. We are progressing toward the achievement of our objectives in accordance with our capabilities and resources and with scientific and clear planning.

The president added: I assure you that had we not adhered to our plan then God only knows in what situation we would be today. What does a plan mean? It means financial resources are

devoted to projects and works that serve public interests. This is instead of each ministry having its own budget which every year it allocated to a different project depending on the whim of the minister or of those around him. The following year the ministry concerned would abandon the project without finishing it and start another one. As a result we have hundreds of unfinished projects and, therefore, we did not reap their fruits despite the money we invested in them. Our plan today commits us to a specified project regardless of whoever the minister or those in the ministry may be. The redirection, for whimsical reasons, of funds allocated for a certain project to another project is over. For this reason I have encountered some resistance by certain people when the plan was put into effect because they were used to a different situation. Today no minister can, on the basis of an individual decision, make changes to any sum allocated for a project. The plan's system specifies allocations for every project. There is a minister of planning and a cabinet that reviews any change that takes place. If anything, I am happy for the fact that I have laid down firm principles to which my successor will find himself obliged to adhere, because if he deviates from them he will be deviating from serving the masses and the great majority of our people.

I said: Which are the most important decisions or actions taken during the past 3 and 1/2 years that are a source of pride for you?

The president said: The first thing is the sense of stability and calm which I have been able to consolidate. The second is production; production levels, thank God, have gone up. In agriculture ask [agriculture minister] Yusuf Wali and you will find that great results have been achieved. We have almost doubled electricity output this year. In the housing sector, despite the enormity and complexity of the problem, we will, under the plan, be able to build in 5 years what used to take 20 years to build. It is true that I have the problem of population growth, but despite this monstrous problem I am doing all I can. The door to debating this problem is open. If there is anybody who can show us better solutions we are ready to implement them; the government is prepared to go along with them. Our doors are freely open. The best safety valve for any country is freedom and democracy.

Mr President, I notice that there is great concentration on your visit to the United States judging by the ministers who went there ahead of you and by the contacts and preparations made.

The president said: That is true because the economic aspect is one of the topics on the agenda and the Americans link that to the budget they submit to Congress. It was necessary to make preparations for all that before my departure. Furthermore, there are many new congressmen whom we do not know. They must be contacted because a congressman is important as far as participation in decisionmaking is concerned. I recall that as vice president in the days of Presidents al-Sadat and Carter I was sent on a mission to the United States. Brown was secretary of defense at the time. I went to his office and asked him about the size of U.S. aid to Israel. When he gave me the figure, I said to him: What you have allocated to us is less than your allocations for Israel but you had promised Al-Sadat that you would treat us equally.

I remember that I was adamant in my discussions with him. When I told him that we wanted F-16 aircraft he immediately said that was impossible, so I told him that I would not leave the United States until I had secured approval for those planes.

Brown said to me: Have you talked to such and such individuals? He named six congressmen. I had already talked to three of them.

When I left Brown I went to see President Carter. Of course, Brown had already told him about my requests on the telephone. I handed him a letter from the now deceased president. After reading it, he said to me fine and how is the president. We discussed various matters and then he asked me to convey my greetings to President al-Sadat. Of course it was obvious that he was ending the meeting but I said to him: Just a minute, I still have said nothing of what I came here to say. Carter was taken aback and he sat down.

We talked for half an hour about the initial topics and we talked for a whole hour about the question of the F-16 aircraft. He had to change his schedule. He finally told me that he would contact Brown and see if they could find a solution, provided Congress approved. After my meeting with Carter, large-scale contacts began with the congressmen who held the key to such approval. Some of them were outside Washington. I sent after them and I spent 3 days with them until I convinced them, and the result of the visit was approval for the supply and scheduling of the F-16's. What I mean to say is that contacts require effort, knowledge, and preparation. The schedule for my visit includes meetings and discussions with congressmen.

I said: As far as the economic aspect is concerned, what do we want from the United States?

The president replied: On the question of economic relations, we are requesting 1.3 billion [currency not specified] in military aid and 815 million in economic aid, as compared with last year's 750 million. We are seeking this military and economic aid and we want it all as a grant, in addition to $225 million worth of wheat to be repaid in Egyptian currency over 30 years.

I said: That means that the picture is clear.

The president said: It is not clear regarding the increases we have asked for in military aid and the debts we owe for previous military deals. We have asked to be exempted from repaying these debts because what is the use of getting development aid and then paying half of it back in the form of interest now due or arrears of interest. Development aid is necessary for raising the standard of living. Military aid is also necessary because if I did not have a strong army democracy and production would collapse. Democracy means that you make your own decisions and this cannot be achieved unless you have power to protect and support you and to free you from the fear of foreign threats.

The president added: Of course, in addition to all that there is the question of reactivating the Palestinian question and urging the Americans to play their part. (This interview took place before King Hussein and 'Arafat announced the Jordanian-

Palestinian agreement. That is why it does not cover that agreement.)

Mr President, is there any change regarding our relations with Israel in the context of the attempts to improve the atmosphere, as Peres says?

President Mubarak replied: I cannot lie to the public. We recalled the Egyptian ambassador from Tel Aviv because of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. I said at the time that the ambassador's return was linked to Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, the return of Tabah, and the reactivation of the Palestinian question. These are not conditions we dictate. They are the rules for our dealings. Having taken that stand, I am committed to it but I do reaffirm our interest in peace and our commitment to the peace treaty with Israel.

I said: It is clear that the negotiations on Tabah have achieved no results.

The president said: A foreign journalist asked me if I would agree to give Tabah to Israel in return for something else. My answer to her was: If you had a son would you agree to trade him for something else?

Of course she could not reply. As far as Tabah is concerned I am sure the result would be in our favor. All the maps since 1906 show Tabah inside the Egyptian borders. Furthermore, In 1956 the Israelis occupied it and later withdrew and left it. Had it been located outside the Egyptian borders they would have held on toit. Tabah is Egyptian and I will never give up one inch of Egyptian territory.

I said: Was the economic conference you convened at the beginning of your term of office beneficial in any way?

The president replied: It was beneficial in some ways. One result was that we drew up our plan, but economic problems are very numerous. For example, the question of subsidies is very important, and can production be boosted overnight?

I said: On the question of subsidies I feel that the people have accepted the increase in the price of bread.

The president said: That is because that increase is in the publicinterest. The aim was never to squeeze a few piasters out of the public. I just want them to look to the future with me, bearing in mind the continuously increasing population because I fear that the day may come when I will not be able to ask the world to supply me with the necessary wheat to provide the necessary loaf of bread. Wheat is expected to become a more strategic commodity than oil at a time when I will not be able to produce enough wheat to cover my needs. This is happening not only to us but also to other states including the Soviet Union itself. That means that I must rationalize my consumption so that in the future I will not have to give up my freedom for a loaf of bread.

Reportage on Military Conflict With Iran

Shelling of Iranian Cities

JN070857 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar, (INA) — Iraq officially announced today that its artillery began shelling the Iranian city of Abadan this morning. Iraq also said that selected targets in the Iranian city of Dezful were struck at midnight last night. The Iraqi military spokesman said that Iraq will mete severe punishment on the Iranian rulers for their crimes.

Communique No 1,762

JN061740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Communique No 1,762 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 March 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces continue to carry out their duties with extreme courage and vehemence in order to protect Iraq from the treachery of those who covet it and to defend the people's dignity, safety, and stability in the Iraqi cities of virtue and glory against the attacks of the criminal Iranian rulers. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. The frustrated Iranian rulers have insisted and continue to insist on abandoning virtue and adhering to vice. Out of their blind grudges against life and its builders, the sons of Iraq, the Iranian rulers directed their heavy artillery fire at Basra, the city of courage, love, and virtue from 2000 to 0030 last night.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships pursued the enemy's remnant forces east of Basra, directing effective, continuous fire at them. They destroyed four enemy troop concentrations and an enemy fortification. Our helicopters returned safely to base with God's protection after leaving flames rising from enemy positions.

3. Our artillery units opened intensive fire on enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the central sector killing three, wounding others, and destroying eight infantry positions the occupants of which were killed. One enemy vehicle was burned.

4. Our artillery pounded enemy weapon emplacements in the Maysan sector silencing seven guns. Our artillery, supported by helicopter gunships, attacked enemy engineering equipment and disabledthem. Six enemy vehicles and one infantry position were destroyed. Elsewhere, our heroic patrols brought back serviceable hardware and equipment that the enemy had abandoned in previous battles.

5. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units opened accurate, intensive fire on enemy positions and weapon emplacements east of Basra. Six enemy infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them killed. One medium machinegun was also destroyed, killing those manning it. Columns of smoke were seen rising from stricken targets.

6. One infantry position and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the northern sector. The enemy was seen evacuating its casualties.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 March 1985

Officials Visit Basra

JN061637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1622 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Basra, 6 Mar (INA) —'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Ghafur, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has visited a number of citizens who were injured and hosptitalized following the heavy Iranian artillery shelling of Basra last night.

Accompanied by the Basra governor, 'Abd al-Ghafur toured the areas that were shelled by Iran and met a number of citizens whose houses were hit.

Last night, Iranian heavy artillery shells fell on several populated areas in Basra injuring many citizens when the roofs of their houses collapsed.

Second Attack on Basra

GF071350 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Report from WAKH correspondent in Baghdad]

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 7 Mar (WAKH) — Unofficial reports from Basra indicate that the city was subjected to heavy Iranian artillery shelling. The reports did not mention the size of the damage caused by the shelling, which is regarded as the second of its kind in 48 hours.

Eyewitnesses coming from Basra said that they heard sounds of shells pouring over parts of the city early today between 0530 and 0730 at an average of 40 shells [as received]. This shelling took place shortly after Iran's announcement that the city of Dezful — which is 60 kilometers far from the border with Iraq — was hit by 8 ground-to-ground missiles. The eyewitnesses said that the number of victims of the Iranian shelling of Basra on Tuesday is estimated at 100 people.

Basra Shelling 'Intensive'

GF071407 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1355 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Report from WAKH correspondent in Baghdad]

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Mar (WAKH) — The Iranian forces have renewed their intensive shelling of the city of Basra in southern Iraq this afternoon. Eyewitnesses from Basra reported that the shelling was intensive and that many parts of the city were hit.

The Iranian shelling early today was aimed at the city of Basra for many hours. The shelling then stopped but was resumed in the afternoon. The extent of the losses caused by the strafing is not so far known.

Attack on 'Maritime Target'

JN071554 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1547 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Almighty God has decided to bestow the blessing of victory on cherished Iraq and to inflict further losses and defeats on every criminal aggressor. Our valiant Air Force planes spotted a large maritime target near Khark Island. The brave sky hawks managed to hit it accurately and effectively at 1630 today before returning with their aircraft safely and triumphantly. praised be God.

[Dated] 7 March 1985

Further Reportage on 'Aziz Activities at UN

Letter to Secretary General

JN070633 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister has sent a reply to the UN secretary general's letter and the UN Security Council statement on the shelling of civilian targets. In his reply, Tariq 'Aziz said that Iraq has meticulously abided by the agreement that was concluded under the auspices of the UN secretary general in (?Iran) in 1984 on refraining from striking at civilian targets in the two countries. The following is the text of the reply:

Mr Secretary General: I became acquainted with the letter you addressed to his excellency the president of the Republic of Iraq. I would like to explain to Your Excellency that the targets shelled by Iraqi aircraft on 4 March are not among the targets that were included in the agreement concluded under your auspices on 12 June 1984. Had they been so, the Iranian authorities would have asked the UN mission entrusted with the investigation of these matters to visit the area and ascertain the nature of these targets.

As for the premeditated Iranian shelling of Basra on 5 March 1985, it is a blatant and premeditated violation of the agreement. Basra is purely a populated center and city. I believe that Your Excellency cannot but take these facts into consideration when assessing your stand.

Iraq has sincerely abided by the 12 June 1984 agreement, and we hope that you will adopt effective measures to make Iran abide by its obligations under the referent agreement. I would like to inform you that we requested that your mission in Iraq yesterday visit Basra and expose the Iranian regime's crimes. At the time of the preparation of this memorandum, the mission has not left for Basra. In light of the contacts we have held with the UN secretariat, it is the Iranian authorities that are obstructing the duty of the referent mission.

Please take speedy and effective measures so that this mission may carry out its duty in accordance with the 12 June 1984 agreement.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq.

Letter to UNSC President

JN070954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpts] New York, 7 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed Iraq's abidance by the agreement that was concluded under the UN secretary general's auspices last June on not shelling populated targets in Iraq and Iran. This was contained in two letters Tariq 'Aziz has sent to the UN secretary general and to the UN Security Council president in reply to their calls on the two countries yesterday not to shell populated targets.

The following is the text of the letters Tariq 'Aziz sent to the UN secretary general and to the UN Security Council president

Your Excellency, the UN Security Council president: I became acquainted with your call yesterday, 5 March 1985, on striking purely populated areas in the current conflict between Iraq and Iran.

I would like to inform you that the Iranian targets shelled by the Iraqi aircraft are targets not covered by the June 1984 agreement. What confirms this is that the Iranian authorities did not ask the UN mission entrusted with the investigation of such cases to visit these targets and ascertain the veracity of the Iranian claims.

Iraq strongly condemns this premeditated violation by Iran of the June agreement. What draws one's attention is that this violation takes place while your esteemed council is studying a delicate and important problem of the war, which Iran insists on prolonging and escalating: the problem of POW's. We hope that the UN Security Council will adopt effective measures to end the recurrent crimes Iran is committing and its premeditated violation of the June agreement as well as its attempts to escalate the state of war. Please accept our respects.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Memoranda Submitted to UN on Iranian Conflict

Shelling of Basra

JN061657 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] United Nations, 6 Mar (INA) — Iraq today submitted a memorandum to the UN Security Council on the Iranian shelling of Basra in southern Iraq. The memorandum, which was accepted as an official UN Security Council document, pointed out that the Basra shelling is a flagrant violation of the agreement that was reached through the UN secretary general's good offices on 12 June 1984 stipulating that the two sides refrain from shelling populated areas. The memorandum noted that this

Iranian action is an escalation of the situation at a time when the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general are exerting earnest endeavors to solve the problem of the Iraqi POW's.

POW Conditions

JN061844 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] United Nations, 6 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi Government today submitted a memorandum to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the UN mission's report on the conditions of the POW's in Iran and Iraq. The memorandum, which was considered an official UN Security Council document, noted the Iranian regime's rejection of all the peaceful efforts that were exerted to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. It made it clear that the UN mission's report ignored a basic fact — namely, that while the Red Cross committee carried out its work in Iraq in an uninterrupted manner, the UN missions's report did not refer to the obstacles that the Iranian regime placed before the Red Cross committee during its work in Iran, thus halting its work on several occasions.

Iraq expressed its regret that the UN mission did not visit all of the POW camps in Iran and did not hold detailed meetings in order to form a clear, comprehensive picture of the situation.

In its memorandum, Iraq exposed the inhuman treatment of the Iraqi POW's in Iran — treatment which violates international law.

Commentaries Condemn Iranian Shelling of Basra

JN061324 Baghdad INA in English 1240 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, Mar 6, INA — Iraqi dailies warned that the rulers of Iran would pay heavily for the crimes they had committed against the people of Iraq and for shelling Basra city.

AL-THAWRAH daily said, in an editorial published here today, that the Iranian rulers by bombarding Basra city had expressed the grudges they had against the people of Iraq. It pin-pointed that the Iranian shelling of civilian districts stood as a clear evidence of Iran's military impotency, frustration and defeat.

AL-THAWRAH noted that the Iranian rulers, who got involved in a military, economic and political crisis, started shelling the city of Basra with the aim of turning the Iranian peoples against Iraq. *AL-THAWRAH* concluded by saying "as from today the rulers of Iran will take the severe punishment prepared for them by Iraq in return for their irresponsible, wanton acts.

Commenting on the same topic, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* daily of Iraq said that when the rulers of Iran inflict harm upon Iraq "they are in fact harming their own peoples, for they are mindful of Iraq's tough reply and retaliation." *AL-JUMHURIYAH* mentioned that Iraq would attack 30 Iranian towns in retaliation for the Iranian rulers' shelling of Basra city, adding that "Iraq could not show self-restraint and must teach the aggressors an unforgettable lesson for their crimes against the people of Iraq, and so that they will think thousand times before daring to commit any fresh crime againt Iraq."

AL-QADISIYAH daily of the Iraqi Defence Ministry, commenting on the same subject today, said that Iraq will retaliate by bombarding vital targets deep inside Iran.

Pointing out that the Iranian rulers' shelling of residental districts was a further example of their impotency at the battlefield,

AL-QADISIYAH noted that Iraq "is determined to curtail any Iranian aggression in a tough manner."

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Egypt

JN061841 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and the accompanying delegation returned home this evening after a several hour visit to Al-Ghurdaqah in Egypt during which a Jordanian-Egyptian summit was held. King Husayn and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a 2-hour bilateral meeting. They then held an expanded meeting that was attended by the members of the Jordanian and Egyptian sides and was interrupted by a working lunch.

During these meetings, King Husayn reviewed the political and pan-Arab situation on which the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO reached an agreement on a joint plan of action to achieve a just and peaceful settlement of the Palestine cause. His majesty explained the clauses of the agreement, the Jordanian-Palestinian interpretation, and the joint understanding of some clauses — an understanding that was reached recently.

The Jordanian and Egyptian sides agreed to assert the importance of this agreement, because it represents a basic principle and historic opportunity to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Such a settlement would lead to a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territory, particularly the city of Jerusalem, based on the principle of land in exchange for peace and that would guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination.

Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak explained his recent moves in the international arena and the ideas he presented to achieve dialogue between the United States and a delegation representing Jordan and the PLO.

JORDAN TIMES Views Husayn-Mubarak Talks

JN070805 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 7 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Time for Diplomacy"]

[Text] The meeting yesterday between His Majesty King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak should help bring some order to the rather wide open state of Middle Eastern diplomacy. For reasons known only to them, the Egyptians have been very quick off the mark with proposals on how to reinvigorate the "peace process", though we should stay close to the ground and reality and remember that only Egypt and Israel have been involved in a "peace process". Bringing in other Arab parties in direct negotiations with Israel is a noble goal, but such a process has to be handled with extreme discretion and prudence. There are obvious problems with Egypt's taking the lead in this respect, the main one being that all but four Arab states do not have diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Therefore, we see the talks between the Jordanian and Egyptian leaderships as an important step on the road towards a thorough and sophisticated analysis of what the Arabs are trying to achieve at this stage of the game, whom their diplomatic targets are, and how the Jordan-PLO accord and a diplomatically excited Egypt all fit into one another's plans. Most of this work has to be done in private. The best thing that Jordan, Egypt, the PLO and other Arab parties could do now is to consult privately and agree on a diplomatic strategy, with a clear division of labour among the parties. Our first priority should remain to gauge and test the willingness of Israel and the United States to adopt more flexible postures, to see if there is any hope in a negotiated peace. We suspect there is, but we won't find out through newspaper interviews. This is the time for a serious, detailed, realistic diplomatic strategy, which the Arabs could all support.

Karami Statement After Weekly Cabinet Meeting

NC061328 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami following the weekly cabinet meeting on 6 March — recorded]

[Excerpt] His excellency the president briefed the cabinet on the results of the Syrian Vice President's visit and the agreement reached indicating a relaxation in the political and security situations. This agreement will also have a good effect on general conditions in the country. We are expecting a second visit by His Excellency Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during the next few days.

The cabinet reviewed the customs situation and the results of adopted measures. The cabinet heard reports by the chairman of the customs council and its director general. It was decided to establish military zones in the legitimate ports. The army has been charged with assuming the security task and coordinating with the other organs responsible for the ports.

The cabinet also heard a report by the army's command on information it has regarding the Israeli withdrawal, arrangements made, and measures taken to maintain security in the areas from which the enemy will withdraw.

Everything we hear about the rise in the price of the dollar, which reached a record figure today, is not justified by economic factors. We are still suffering from the citizens' psychological feelings regarding confidence in the Lebanese pound, which we are trying to restore. If the political and security situations are the cause for the rise in the price of the dollar, then our confidence and optimism that the ranks will be reunited and cooperation will be reestablished among all of us over the next few days should have resulted in a drop and not a rise in the price of the dollar. I advise those who are hanging on to dollars to quickly exchange them because the climate is improving, god willing.

Sa'ib Salam Denounces U.S. Support of Israel

NC071130 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 6 Mar 85 p 3

[Unattributed Report: "Salam: 'Denunciation of America Before Israel; The Arabs Are Called Upon to Adopt a Stand Before It Is Too Late; The Enemy's Hangmen Will Not Subdue the Resistance Heroes'"]

[Excerpt] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam has assailed the U.S. policy and its support for Israel. He said that the United States, before Israel, must be denounced at the Security Council. "Were it not for the United States and its blind support, the Nazi Zionist state would not have been able to repeat its invasions and to expand at the expense of the Arab territories and people. It is time the Arabs realized all this perfectly well so as to adopt a vigilant unified stand toward the United States before it is too late."

That came in a statement Prime Minister Salam made yesterday. He began his statement, saying:

"It is the United States, before Israel, that should be denounced by the Security Council when it comes to considering Israel's barbaric actions in south Lebanon. The most prominent aspect of these actions is the barbaric massacre that was committed in Ma'rakah yesterday. Both the United States and Israel are criminals. The crime of the big one is greater than that of the small one. Were it not for the United States and its blind support for Israel since its inception, the Nazi Zionist state would not have been able to repeat its invasions and expansion at the expense of the Arab territories and peoples around it. Were it not for the United States, Israel would not have been able to carry out its bestial, barbaric actions in areas under its occupation, and where its hand has reached without any deterrent or compunction."

He said: The United States, which has supplied and is still supplying Israel with unlimited billions of dollars and with the most destructive types of weapons without restrictions or limits, is the same United States which is protecting Israel politically vis-a-vis the whole world. It is the United States which has helped in rendering the United Nations ineffective in the world and has made it lose its entire prestige among the nations because of the constant U.S. veto in blind support for Israel against any just complaint by any Arab state. It is time the Arabs realized all this perfectly well so that they may adopt a vigilant unified stand toward the United States before it is too late, not only for the sake of lebanon but also to ward off the Israeli danger in the future of every Arab country."

Abu Nadir Affirms Continuance of Lebanese Forces

NC061339 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Lebanese Forces' Commander Fu'ad Abu Nadir gave a news conference today and affirmed that the existence of the Lebanese Forces will continue. He asserted that the Lebanese Forces' existence is not contingent upon the political or military situation. He said that the Lebanese Forces' existence is permanent, linked with our society, and dictated by the historic reality of Lebanon and the Middle East. He emphasized that our commitment to defending an independent Lebanese entity and the Christians' security, freedom, and pride on this soil are unquestionable. These issues are inviolable.

Abu Nadir said that the Lebanese Forces are capable of moving from military resistance to political resistance without losing anything. He said that they are capable of giving a political solution an opportunity to save blood and martyrs. He said: Our goals are more important than our means; our independence is stronger than our relations with others; and our creed is stronger than any creed that might emerge from this long war.

Abu Nadir said: Syria must provide proof of the possibility of establishing Lebanese-Syrian relations without infringing upon Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and, consequently, of establishing Syrian-Christian relations without harming the Christians' security and freedom. He said: We will remain here whether we are friends or adversaries of Syria. We will remain here whether Israel is with us or against us. Our issue is separate

and is the oldest issue in the Middle East. States emerge and regimes fall, but our issue remains.

Abu Nadir said: Our relations with others must be good and must allow us to play a role in the process of establishing peace in the region. A call for peace may seem strange in this frenzied atmosphere in Lebanon and the region. We, however, are concerned about adhering to realism, because it is time that Lebanon rest, that the Middle East become stable, and that the south regain its security.

Abu Nadir said that positive Lebanese-Syrian relations and even Syrian-Christian relations cannot be achieved by causing the Lebanese to worry about their independence. He said: We absolutely do not understand the calls for unity with Syria or the call on the Syrian Army to come to Beirut. These calls in themselves obstruct Lebanese-Syrian relations. There must be two independent entities.

Minister Says Resistance Can Reach Galilee

NC070654 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] 'Adil 'Usayran, minister of national defense and agriculture, has affirmed that the national resistance can reach Israeli settlements in Galilee. He said: We abrogated the 17 May agreement very willingly and resolutely out of the conviction that Lebanon cannot be liberated by written agreements but by the efforts and blood of its people.

Security at U.S. Embassy Tightened for Protest

NC061803 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Security was tightened around the U.S. Embassy building in 'Ayn al-Muraysah this morning. The measures were take as a group of demonstrators proceeded from the Al-Hurj Secondary School to protest the American position at the Security Council and Israel's actions in the south.

'Violent' Explosion in Beirut, Casualties Noted

NC061654 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] At approximately 1830, a violent explosion took place in the Kasrawani coffee shop, in the Riyad al-Sulh area of the capital. Initial reports indicate that a number of people were wounded as a result. Ambulances and civil defense squads will transfer them to the Al-Barbir Hospital.

It was also mentioned that 61st Battalion personnel positioned near the area suffered casualties. Ambulances are now removing the wounded. A security cordon has been thrown around the scene of the explosion. Bursts of gunfire are now being heard in the area.

7 Killed, 10 Wounded

NC061720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1702 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] We have just received the following from a security source: An explosion took place in a coffee shop in the Riyad al-Sulh area of Beirut. Preliminary reports note that 7 persons were killed and 10 others wounded.

Fighting Between Phalangists, Armenians Reported

NC062102 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] There has been fierce fighting since 1900 between Phalangist forces and Armenian groups in Burj Hammud and Al-Nab'ah. The fighting, in which all sorts of weapons have been used, broke out as a result of the Phalangists' attempt to dominate those areas.

We learned a short while ago that the intensity of the fighting abated after the Army intervened. We have no current reports on casualties, due to the security cordon that has been imposed around the scene of the fighting.

Fighting Denied

NC062107 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Contrary to reports carried by some radios, there has been no fighting at all in the Burj Hammud and Al-Nab'ah areas tonight. Security sources expressed surprise at these reports. Meanwhile, gunmen took to the streets in Saqiyat al-Janzir, Tallat al-Khayyat, and Ra's al-Nab' following the fighting that broke out today between Amal gunmen and others from the Progressive Socialist Party.

Reportage on Israeli Actions in South, Reactions

Israelis Fire on Road

NC061230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] A military source in southern Lebanon reported today that Israeli enemy forces opened tank fire on the road between Tayr Falsayh and Al-Zrariyah while transport vehicles were bringing food to the citizens. The source said that the fire originated from Bidyas and lasted 2 hours. The occupation forces also set up roadblocks on the road to Ma'rakah and its environs.

On the Ma'rakah-Hammadiyah junction, the enemy forces shot and killed citizen Hasan Skayki while he was going to work.

The occupation forces have detained Muhammad Kurani, Amal official in the Bint Jubayl district. They also deported Malaki Hammud, official in the women's movement in the Bint Jubayl district, to Beirut.

A military source in occupied Jerusalem said that Lebanese reporters who were detained by the occupation forces yesterday in Al-Nabatiyah have been released.

Army Clashes With Israelis

NC061340 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Our correspondent in the south reports that the Lebanese Army in Zrariyah intercepted an Israeli force which was trying to advance toward the town. The Lebanese Army clashed with the Israeli force, using machineguns and medium-caliber weapons, and forced it to retreat. The incident took place at 0900 today.

As part of the harassment policy in the south, the enemy's forces prevented an Internal Security Force from entering the besieged village of Sil'a. They arrested citizens Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim, Yasin Ayyub, and Muhammad Ahmad Ghunaym.

The occupation forces raided (Al-Wazah) village in the Jazzin district for the second time in 24 hours. They arrested Fadl 'Abbas Haydar, Ibrahim Hashim, Muhammad 'Abdallah Hashim, Isma'il Haydar, and his brother Husayn.

Resistance Retaliates; Journalists Arrested

NC061934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpts] According to reports from the south, a group of Lebanese national resistance fighters retaliated for the Israeli enemy's assault on Tura by attacking an enemy position and an assembly point for troops near the Dayr Qanun-Burj Rahhal-Al-'Abbasiyah junction at 1230. The unit clashed with those manning the position, and the enemy's fire was silenced. The group then withdrew without suffering any losses. An Israeli motorized force came to the scene of the fighting and surrounded it. The enemy's losses are not known.

Our reports also indicate that a group of national resistance fighters planted an explosive charge near Shabriha. As an Israeli patrol passed, the charge exploded under a truck carrying 10 soldiers. The truck was destroyed, and its occupants were either killed or wounded.

Meanwhile, residents of Burj al-Shamali marched to, and stormed the Jabal 'Amil Institute, which enemy forces had occupied in the morning. The residents confronted the occupation forces, and there was some fighting. The enemy suffered a number of casualties.

According to other reports, the Israelis besieged and stormed Bidyas this afternoon. They arrested a number of journalists.

We have learned that the Israeli enemy forces removed the Al-Numayriyah roadblock on the main Al-Nabatiyah road, and that they have begun dismantling their installations there. They intend to move them to (Tallat Hawrata), near Dayr al-Zahrani. The occupation forces have also reportedly closed the Al-Numayriyah-Al-Nabatiyah Road, and have begun dismantling their installations. Our reports indicate that the Israeli roadblock might be moved to the (Furata) Junction, in the direction of Dayr al-Zahrani.

An explosion occurred on the Al-Qasimiyah-al-Burghuliyah road at 1700 today. The explosion is thought to have been caused by a falling shell. A child was killed, and eight other people were wounded.

We have received this followup to our earlier report on the explosion near Al-Burguliyah: Members of the Lebanese national resistance conducted a heroic operation at 1500 today near the Al-Qasimiyah Bridge on the Al-Qasimiyah-Al-Burghuliyah road. Members of the resistance fired four shells at this bridge, which is the site of a position manned by the occupation forces. The occupation forces immediately surrounded Al-Burghuliyah, and began searching the area. Ibrahim Musa al-Hasan was quickly killed in this search operation, and a number of others were wounded.

Further on Arrested Journalists

NC062135 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The Israeli enemy forces resumed their aggressive actions against our steadfast people in the south this evening. At 1815, the enemy forces shelled Al-Zrariyah from positions surrounding the town. They then entered the village under covering fire and conducted a large-scale search.

At the same time, one of the Israeli enemy's military units evacuated Bidyas, which it entered at 0700 today. Seven armored personnel carriers and 100 soldiers were involved.

The Israeli enemy forces continued their provocations against newsmen, media officials, and correspondents who report the facts to the outside world. At noon today, these forces arrested a number of foreign photographers on the Bidyas-al-'Abbasiyah road. These men, passengers in a taxi driven by Jamal Halawah, were coming from Tyre. Those arrested include: Samir Ghattas, from *THE DAILY MAIL*, REUTER photographer (Frederick Mima), Alfred Ya'qub Zadah, a photographer for the U.S. magazine *NEWSWEEK*, and TELEX COLLECTIVE PRESS photographer (Bernard Peassaunt). The fate of the photographers and their driver is still unknown.

The Israeli forces distributed a leaflet to people living south of the Al-Litani today. The document contained an order restricting the movement of people and vehicles.

At 1500 today, the Murshid Lahhad group directed mortar and rocket fire at Israeli units deployed on the Burj Rahhal-Bidyas hills. At 1600, the Martyr Hasan al-Sahili group used mortars and rockets to shell an enemy position in Al-Qasimiyah. Some 15 to 20 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded.

Israelis Shell Town, Army Reacts

NC070832 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0818 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Israeli forces have been shelling Kawthariyat al-Siyad and Lebanese Army positions there since 0935. The Lebanese Army is returning the fire. The Israelis are trying to force their way into the town and have amassed armored vehicles and tanks, which are participating in the shelling. Latest reports indicate that the Israeli vehicles are now approximately 700 meters from Lebanese Army positions.

The Army Command Guidance Directorate issued the following communique: At 0815 today, several Israeli tanks advanced from the direction of Al-Sharqiyah toward Kawthariyat al-Siyad while directing tank fire at Army positions in Kawthariyat al-Siyad. The army returned the fire with the appropriate weapons.

We have just received the following report: Israeli helicopters are now flying over Kawthariyat al-Siyad to guide the artillery shelling. It was reported that Lebanese Army positions are being shelled at the rate of three shells per minute.

Israelis Raid Two Villages

NC070943 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0921 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The Israeli forces encircled the towns of (Al-Hallusiyah) and Tayr Falsayh in the Tyre district at 0630 today. We have learned that approximately 120 Israeli soldiers and 50 vehicles raided (Al-Hallusiyah) at 0730. After 1 hour of confrontation with the people, the occupation forces managed to control the town. They assembled the youths and men in the local mosque and began investigations. In the meantime, Israeli soldiers searched the houses and scattered their contents.

In Tayr Falsayh, some 40 vehicles raided the town and enemy forces opened indiscriminate fire in all directions. They assembled the citizens in the towns's school, where they are investigating the youths.

Official UNIFIL Spokesman Timor Goksel has affirmed the report and said that both towns fall within the area of the Finnish contingent. He said that 50 Finnish soldiers went to the towns on orders from headquarters in Burj Qallawiyah to help the UNIFIL soldiers in the two towns to disengage the people and the Israeli forces. The enemy forces prevented Red Cross ambulances from entering either of the towns.

The occupation forces' artillery shelling of Lebanese Army positions in the perimeter of Kawthariyat al-Siyad, which began at 0815, stopped at 1040, after which the occupation forces withdrew from the town. The Lebanese Army there returned the fire with all types of weapons.

Group Calls For Severing Relations With U.S.

NC071050 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 6 Mar 85 p 4

[Excerpt] The Independent Lebanese National Grouping has declared that the Israeli withdrawal decision came in response to the Lebanese national resistance determination for liberation. It is also a message to all those seeking and wagering on peace with the enemy.

The grouping said that if the Arab regimes were to look at what takes place in the south, the Arab people would be called upon to adopt a different position; namely, that of supporting and consolidating the resistance.

The grouping stressed that the criminal action in Ma'rakah was a result of the promised U.S. veto, and that severance of relations with the United States would be the first answer to the criminal massacre.

Talas Receives PDRY Defense Minister 6 Mar

JN061307 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, today received Brigadier General Salih Muslih Qasim, PDRY Politburo member and defense minister, and his delegation, who are currently on a 3-day visit to Syria. General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces, attended the meeting. Talks dealt with issues of common interest and the current situation in the Arab region. 'Abduh 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman, the PDRY ambassador in Damascus, also attended the meeting.

Navy Acquires Ships; Talas Thanks Soviets

JN062150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Damascus, 6 Mar (SUNA) — Under the patronage of struggler comrade Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, and as part of our people's celebrations on the 22d anniversary of the glorious March revolution, our naval forces held celebrations today on receiving a number of naval units that will be added to our fleet. General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, represented President Hafiz al-Asad at these celebrations. Talas arrived in the coastal region this afternoon accompanied by PDRY Defense Minister Staff Brigadier General Salih Qasim; General 'Ali Aslan; Major General Hasan Tukmani, deputy chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces; and a number of senior officers.

Gen Talas, representative of President al-Asad at the celebration, delivered a speech in which he said: On the occasion of raising the Syrian Arab flag on a number of naval units and on renewing our allegiance to struggler comrade Hafiz al-Asad, I convey to you the greetings of struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad whose wise leadership and courage will lead us from one victory to another. He has turned Syria into a fortress of Arab steadfastness and our naval forces have become, under the Corrective Movement, a strike force that the enemy must take into account. Today, Syria is able to foil all the conspiracies that are being concocted against our Arab nation, and we will throw those who grovel to imperialism into the dustbin of history.

Gen Talas also added: The nationalist resistance achieved victory in southern Lebanon when it applied President Hafiz al-Asad's slogan: "Martyrdom Is the Road to Victory." This victory has been a victory for the just Arab cause.

At the end of his speech, Gen Talas thanked the Soviet Union for its support to Syria in various fields, and wished the fighters further progress on the path of liberation and victory under beloved President Hafiz al-Asad.

The commander of the coastal region then delivered a speech in which he welcomed Gen Talas, representative of President al-Asad at the celebrations, and his companions. He then praised Syria's accomplishments under the victories of the Ba'th revolution, which grew after the Corrective Movement provided stability and the means to carry out all the pan-Arab duties of our steadfast country. Ending his speech, he renewed absolute loyalty to the leader of our march and the preserver of our honor, President Hafiz al-Asad.

The representative of the Soviet side also delivered a speech in which he greeted Gen Talas, the representative of the patron of the celebrations, and the others who attended the celebrations. He said the delivery of the naval units to the Syrian Navy is proof of the cooperation between the two countries, and that these units will strengthen Syria's power and its steadfastness in the face of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies. He also praised President Hafiz al-Asad and Konstantin Chernenko for their efforts to strengthen Syrian-Soviet friendship. Ceremonies were then held for the delivery of the naval units; the Soviet flag was lowered and the Sryian flag raised over the vessels. Gen Talas then shook hands with the Syrian and Soviet seamen and wished them success. Gen Talas was given a warm farewell.

AL-BA'TH Denounces 'Arafat-Husayn Agreement

PM061608 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 28 Feb 85 pp 1,11

[Chief Editor Turki Saqr Article: "Essence of the New Deal"]

[Excerpts] Hurried coordination steps are being taken to put the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement into immediate effect. This hurry follows the completion of the elements of the game and the sides concerned laying their cards on the table. Amman has publicly announced details of the agreement, encouraging voices are emanating from Western capitals, international emissaries are scurrying about with U.S. approval, and the head of the Egyptian regime is publicly calling for direct negotiations between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

In reality the game is nothing but an extension of Camp David though under a different name. The prominence recently given to the Egyptian role is only clear confirmation of the fact. When Mubarak proposes a conference for direct negotiations with Israel this in essence means the realization of the Palestinian section of Camp David, the section which the murdered Al-Sadat failed to realize when he called for a similar conference at the Mena House Hotel in Cairo.

Through the agreement with Amman 'Arafat is today trying to overcome the failure which was Al-Sadat's lot. He has offered Husni Mubarak the key to the solution, which consists in giving a mandate to King Husayn and abandoning the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Thus the head of the Egyptian regime, prior to his visit to Washington, can put on President Reagan's table what he and Israel are demanding: the implementation of the second part of Camp David.

Syria has already said many times that this path is not in the interest of the Palestinian people or any Arab country. In the final analysis it could only mean capitulation and more concessions and forsaking of rights. New facts are emerging daily in the Arab arena proving the correctness of this line and the fact that the hostility toward Syria by 'Arafat and the band of capitulationists was not for nothing.

No person with a modicum of fairness can deny that Syria's stand represents the optimum Arab option stemming from the will to resist and struggle in order to get rid of aggression and restore rights. Perhaps undeniable proof of the correctness and effectiveness of this option is to be found in what is taking place in southern Lebanon. It is no longer a secret that the Israeli occupation there has retreated under the blows of the valiant resistance which finds its backing in Syria's stand and which has in fact caused Israel to lose its ability to bargain and to impose conditions.

The legitimate question that arises is: How does the Husayn-'Arafat alliance dare to rush with such disgrace to the negotiating table when the world for the first time is witnessing an Israeli military retreat before the heroic Lebanese resistance operations and when the Arab option in Lebanon is triumphant thanks to the fighting masses and not to devious diplomacy and the pursuit of the illusion of solutions?

Have the Palestinian Arab people, who have carried the gun, joined the ranks of the revolution, and declared continuing resistance until their rights are restore, done all of this so that Husayn can sit with Peres at the negotiating table in order to liquidate their cause and do away with their future?

Are the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories fighting with their bare hands, with rocks, and with every available weapon, simply to recognize in advance the Zionist entity's right to exist within borders that are marked by its soldiers' boots every time it wishes to expand, or simply to live under the aegis of King Husayn's crown in an alleged confederation based on a resolution that considers all the Palestinians mere refugees?

Concession and nothing else is the essence of the new deal, the deal that all the Arab masses in general and the Palestinian masses in particular reject.

Peres Informs French Envoy of Stance on Mubarak Plan

TA061057 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1040 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres informed the French policymakers of Israel's positions on the ideas raised by the Egyptian president. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the night before yesterday, Peres met the French ambassador in Israel at the Ambassador's request.

Our correspondent notes that the French president will confer with the Egyptian president in Paris next Friday.

Leaders Desire End to Conflict With Shi'ites

Rabin 'Hopes' for Peace

TA061234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin hopes it will be possible eventually to come to terms with Shi'ite Muslims in south Lebanon. Rabin was speaking to a United Jewish Appeal conference in Jerusalem. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Defense Minister Rabin believes this year the Lebanese involvement will be left behind and the northern frontier will be relatively safe. Rabin spoke hopefully of eventually reaching a modus operandi with Shi'ite Muslims in south Lebanon.

[Rabin] I hope that after a certain period of confrontation between us, the Shi'ites, and other Lebanese bodies and organizations, certain modus operandi will be established that will give tranquility, to the extent that the population in the northern part of the country will be able to conduct a normal way of life without interference by terrorism.

[Essing] The defense minister criticized all those who were afraid to test the Mubarak initiative. Rabin did not mention Likud leaders by name, but they were clearly his target.

[Rabin] Why always to create the impression that we are against? After all, we are for peace.

[Essing] The defense minister acknowledged there are uncertainties, but Israel should put the Mubarak initiative to the test from a positive point of view.

[Rabin] If he tries to create the impression for public relations, let's challenge it. Let's say we are ready. Let's now, in his visit in the United States — the media, the Congress, the administration will ask him: You came with a new initiative. Are you ready to implement it? Israel has responded positively. If not, why did you come with such an initiative? [end recording]

Official Calls for Dialogue

TA061213 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Mar 85 p 5

[Report by Hayim Margalit]

[Text] The Shi'ite community in Lebanon — which is the largest Muslim community, and which has in the past suffered the most — is in a process of consolidation and is receiving much more national responsibility in the framework of the Lebanese power structure. So I was told by Uri Lubrani, the Israeli coordinator of activities in southern Lebanon. He emphasized that the leaders of that community are struggling for a place at the top, and according to him this is a natural and unavoidable struggle.

Lubrani noted: "The tragedy is that the Shi'ite community is in a state of confrontation with us, and the extremists in Ba'labakk participate in this confrontation. The Beirut-based extremists receive their instructions from Damascus. Among the moderates — Lebanese Cabinet member Nabih Birri and Hasan Hashim are the most prominent — there is also a struggle." Most of the inhabitants of southern Lebanon are Mutawwalis, members of the Shi'ite community.

The IDF is deployed in southern Lebanon and due to this fact, points of friction have been created. The IDF has turned into a convenient target for all sides. As Lubrani puts it: "Let us hit the IDF." This is strange, the increase in the number of attacks has come precisely when the IDF has begun the process of evacuation and follows our announcement that we are withdrawing from the area. According to Lubrani, a situation was created in which we have to use the heavy-handed policy, even though the term "heavy-handed" is an exaggeration, because in southern Lebanon there are hundreds of Shi'ite villages which the IDF forces have not entered. However, there are several places which repeatedly appear in the news and have turned into arsenals for whoever wants to attack our soldiers. There is simply no alternative but to operate in these villages, emphasized the coordinator of activities in southern Lebanon.

Lubrani claims that since the beginning of the war our "forces" have attempted to reach a dialogue with the leaders of the Shi'ites, but their answer was "no." According to him the ongoing negotiations with the leaders of this community are documented. Lubrani said that unfortunately not even one leader exhibited leadership and recognized the situation. "Why?" asks Lubrani, and goes on to answer his own question: None of the Shi'ite leaders wanted to endanger their lives, even though they know very well, as do the other inhabitants in Lebanon, that the IDF did not aim to remain permanently in southern Lebanon, and that Israel is interested in a dialogue with the Shi'ites not in a confrontation with them. Lubrani noted: "It is ironic that it was the Lebanese war which increased the importance and weight of the Shi'ite community, and now they are in a position of power that previously they have never enjoyed."

Lubrani emphasized that Israel is not interested in continuing the confrontation with the Shi'ites. Its aim is to discover weapons caches in order to prevent hostile actions. He said that to date no serious study of the Mutawwalis, who in the past constituted the majority of the population in the Galilee, has been made in Israel. He also recalled that the battle in Tel-Hay, which occurred in

Trumpeldor's days [the battle in the Jewish settlement in northern Galilee in 1920] was waged against the Mutawwalis.

Lebanese Army, IDF Clash in Southern Lebanon

Lebanese Army Spokesman

TA090911 Jeruslem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The spokesman of the Lebanese Army announced that since the morning hours a battle has been raging between IDF tanks and Lebanese Army soldiers near the village of Kawthariyat al-Siyad. According to the spokesman, the battle began when Lebanese Army soldiers tried to prevent the entry of IDF soldiers into the village. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that this is the second incident between the Lebanese Army and the IDF in this region over the last 2 weeks. Quiet is now prevailing in the area.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal comments that this village is located about 2 km outside the territory currently controlled by the IDF.

Military Sources Confirm

TA071026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1018 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Quiet is now prevailing in the area of the village of Kawthariyat al-Siyad in southern Lebanon, following a shooting incident between a Lebanese Army force and an IDF patrol. This is reported by military sources in Israel. The sources say that in the course of the incident, the Lebanese Army force opened fire on our soldiers and our forces returned the fire. Quiet now prevails in the area.

Political 'Sources' React to Husayn-Mubarak Meeting

TA061813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem reacted this evening to the meeting between the Egyptian president and the Jordanian monarch, and said that Israel continues to insist on direct negotiations, without preconditions, between itself and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that does not include PLO representatives.

The sources added that negotiations between Washington and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation would not be conducive to peace and would be unacceptable to us. The sources noted: We have grounds to believe such negotiations would also be unacceptable to the U.S. Administration.

The sources expressed the hope that President Mubarak will repeat and insist [ya'amod] on the proposals he raised in his *NEW YORK TIMES* interview.

Mubarak Interviewed on Husayn Meeting, Mideast Peace

TA070758 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
7 Mar 85 p 1

[Report on an interview with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak by *JERUSALEM POST* editor Ari Rath at Cairo airport following summit with King Husayn of Jordan on 6 March]

[Excerpt] Cairo — President Husni Mubarak said last night he was confident that his summit meeting with King Husayn was successful and expressed his belief that he could reach agreement with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on the question of participation of moderate Palestinians in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Speaking with *THE JERUSALEM POST* in an interview at Cairo airport on his return from Al-Ghurdagah, Mubarak said that he would do his best to encourage Israeli public opinion that Egypt is firmly committed to the peace process.

His message to the people in Israel was, as he put it, that "we are working for peace only and we are trying to also mobilize the others to the peace process."

The Egyptian president said at the same time that he expected Israel to be flexible and logical, because "we all have to mobilize ourselves for reaching our common goal which is peace. Isn't this goal our common denominator?" he asked.

Mubarak termed the present stage of the attempts to revive the peace process a "dialogue, not yet negotiations." First a dialogue with the Americans will be opened. It will be a dialogue, not negotiations, he stressed. At the same time we will "create contacts with our brothers in Israel, in order to involve her in the dialogue with the aim of furthering the peace process."

Mubarak said he thought the summit meeting with Husayn "made very great progress, so far as we did not make any change in the agreement between the Jordanians and the Palestinians." but, he stressed, "you know the agreement is between the state of Jordan, and the PLO. So we can't ignore that. Let us live in reality and be practical. Everything has its own solution."

Asked how he would resolve the problem of having "moderate Palestinians" take part in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Mubarak said: "Let this point be discussed with Prime Minister Peres. I have no problem. I am sure that we can reach a point on this issue."

Mubarak concluded the interview by repeating his pledge to do his best to convince Israel public opinion of Egypt's good will, and stressed: "We all hope to live in peace, we're committed to peace and we will try our best to achieve it."

Shamir To Discuss Exports to EEC With Cheysson

TA062022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will leave for Brussels early next week to confer with

Claude Cheysson, who is in charge of the Middle East in the EEC. Among other issues, Shamir will discuss with him the future of Israel's agricultural exports to the EEC countries even before Spain joins that organization.

Our political correspondent reports that the foreign minister today sent letters to his counterparts in the EEC countries, and pointed out that Israeli agriculture could face a severe situation unless an arrangement is reached regarding some items Israel exports to Europe. Following his visit to Europe, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will leave for a state visit to Canada.

Begin Denies Rumors of Political Comeback

TA051123 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Mar 85 p 7

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpts] "I am not returning," Begin told the *HADASHOT* correspondent yesterday. The rumors on the former prime minister's intention of returning to the political arena arose in the wake of a letter he sent to the ceremony marking the 104th anniversary of Jabotinsky's birth which was held in 'Afula. "All headlines published following this letter are exaggerated and totally unfounded," Begin said. "I could explain the letter but this is not really necessary. It does not contain anything special. I wrote a number of letters this week. Appeals reach me and I sit down and respond by writing these letters. In that particular letter I indeed explained that at one time we were few in number and could not talk, but now we are many and a member of our movement is even the mayor of this town."

Officially, Menahem Begin is still the Herut executive chairman. It is inconceivable that anyone would ask him to retire from this position due to his absence.

After Begin's meetings with Minister Sharon, and after he balanced this out by meetings also with Shamir and Arens, the Herut Movement is wondering why he has not also met with David Levi, despite the clear hints given him on Levi's desire to meet with him. Another question that has been asked lately is: Will Begin come out with any declarations before the Histadrut elections?

Peres Holds Meeting on Free Trade Zone With U.S.

Initialing of Agreement Opposed

TA061252 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] In the ministries that deal with economic affairs, there is strong opposition to the finance minister's intention to initial in Washington this week the agreement to establish a free trade zone between Israel and the United States.

Our economic affairs correspondent, Gadi Sukenik has learned that in view of this opposition, the prime minister will convene a meeting of some ministers and the government legal adviser this evening.

Our correspondent reports that it is claimed in Jerusalem that the updated version of the agreement has not been received, and it is feared that after it is signed, it will not be possible to change any provisions in the agreement. A decision will be made at this evening's meeting whether Minister Moda'i will sign the agreement or wait until the draft is received and examined.

Initialing Approved

TA061938 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] At a ministerial consultation in the prime minister's office this evening, it was decided to authorize the finance minister to initial the agreement on the establishment of a free trade zone with the United States. Our correspondent reports that the attorney general attended the consultation and raised several legal reservations, but it was decided that they would be discussed during the negotiations over the agreement itself. It should be noted that the agreement requires the authorization of the Government of Israel and U.S. Administration institutions. Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i told our correspondent that he is optimistic about receiving emergency aid from the United states totalling $1.05 billion.

Reportage on IDF Operations, Contacts in S. Lebanon

Officers Maintain Lebanese Contacts

TA061243 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The IDF liaison unit officers in Lebanon are maintaining contacts with the various communities to guarantee that the second phase of the IDF evacuation is completed without interruption. They also want to make arrangements that will prevent the outbreak of sectarian war in the IDF-vacated region.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that relations have lately tightened between the Druze in the Al-Shuf Mountains and the Christians in the Jazzin area, due to their mutual fear of the increasing power of the Shi'ites. The Druze have also allowed the Christians to transfer arms and ammunition from Beirut to Jazzin via the Christian-controlled region. Representatives of these two communities also discussed the possibility of the Christians' return to their villages in the Al-Shuf Mountains.

Terrorists Killed in Sir

TA061203 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1157 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] This report is just in from our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal: Military sources report that in an IDF clash with terrorists this morning near the village of Sir north of the Al-Litani River, the IDF soldiers killed two terrorists. Another terrorist was wounded and captured. Our correspondent comments that despite the heavy-handed policy in southern Lebanon, there has been a rise in the number of terrorist acts against the IDF soldiers in recent weeks.

Terrorist Killed Near Shukin

TA070717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] A terrorist was killed and four soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon were wounded last night in an encounter with a terrorist gang near the village of Shukin, in the Al-Nabatiyah area. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that two attempts were also made last night to attack IDF soldiers, but no one was hurt. Fire was opened from an ambush against an IDF patrol ner the village of Al-Duwayr, and an IDF force was attacked on the outskirts of Al-Nabatiyah. As stated, our forces suffered no casualties.

Australia To Withdraw From MFO; Canada May Join

TA070804 Jerusalem The JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpt] Australia has given notice that it will withdraw its contingent from the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in Sinai next year. But Canada has indicated that it will probably contribute a unit of its armed forces to the MFO to fill the gap — both political and logistic.

Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir intends to take up this matter when he holds official talks in Ottawa next week.

The Australian withdrawal would be the first from the 10-nation MFO, established in 1982 to police Sinai in accordance with the Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

About 100 Australians and 30 New Zealanders together man a helicopter unit whose tasks include supporting ground observers, supplying outpost personnel and providing a round-the-clock aerial medical evacuation capability.

The Australian ambassador, Robert Merrillees, confirmed last night that the Canberra government had decided to withdraw its men in April 1986, after four years.

He noted that Australia's commitment, renewed in 1984, had "never been open-ended" and that the Australian Socialist Party, in opposition in 1982 and now in government, had always harboured "reservations" about the MFO's not being a UN instrument.

ALGERIA

Foreign Minister Expresses Concern About Lebanon

LD061149 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, yesterday received separately the ambassadors of Lebanon and Syria, with whom he discussed the grave situation prevailing in Lebanon.

The ambassadors of the permanent members of the UN Security Council were also received and were briefed on Algeria's profound concern with the tragic developments witnessed by Lebanon, and Algeria's condemnation of the crimes being committed by the Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon.

The attention of the ambassadors of the permanent members of the UN Security Council was drawn to the need to prevent repetition of the tragedy of Sabra and Shatila.

With the Indian ambassador, whose country is a leader of the Nonaligned Movement, emphasis was placed on the methods that must be used to express the solidarity of the Nonalignment Movement with the Lebanese people.

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Visit of Romania's Ceausescu

Seen Off by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD061443 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] President Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Romania, left Tripoli this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The Romanian president was given a big send-off at Tripoli International Airport, where the brother leader of the revolution led those who saw him off. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud; the brother's secretary; members of the General People's Committee; a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces; heads of the diplomatic missions in the Jamahiriyah; and the ambassador and staff of the Romanian Embassy and the Romaniana community also participated.

Sends Message to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD070037 Tripoli JANA in English 1958 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 13, March 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu sent a cable to the leader of the revolution as he was leaving the Libyan Arab air space on the conclusion of his official and friendly 3 day visit to Jamahiriyah. In it he said:

To Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al Fateh of September Revolution. As I am leaving the territories of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah I would like to thank you warmly for the friendly reception and hospitality which we received during our visit to your country.

I feel that the visit and our talks and the understanding we reached will increase the strengthening friendship and cooperation between our countries for the benefits and interests of both our peoples, and for the cause of understanding, security and peace all over the world. Now as we are saying good bye to you, it gives me great pleasure in presenting you with best wishes of good health, happiness, progress and prosperity.

Greeting to you in person and to the friendly Libyan Arab people.

Joint Statement Issued

LD061554 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 6 Mar 85

["Text" of joint statement on visit of Romanian party-government delegation led by President Nicolae Ceausescu to Libya issued in Tripoli on 6 March]

[Text] At the invitation of Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, President Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, accompanied by Mrs Elena Ceasusescu, paid an official friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah 4-6 March 1988.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and the accompanying delegation were accorded a warm official and friendly welcome stressing the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples of the SPLAJ and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

In an atmosphere of friendship and understanding official talks were held between Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, and President Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, which dealt with bilateral relations in all spheres. There was also a discussion of international issues of mutual interest.

Taking part in the talks on the Arab Libyan side were Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud; Brother Dr Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; Brother Ibrahim al-Faqih Hasan, secretary of the General People's Committee for Social Security; Brother Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industries; Brother Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning in charge of oil; and Brother 'Abd al-Hamid Farhat, secretary of the People's Bureau in Romania.

On the Romanian side the following took part in the talks: Mrs Elena Ceausescu, first deputy prime minister of Romania; Mr Gheorghe Oprea, first deputy prime minister of Romania; Mr Stefan Andrei, foreign minister; Mr Vasile Pungan, minister of

foreign trade and international economic cooperation; Mr Dimitrie Ancuta, adviser to the president, and Mr Florea Dumitrescu, Romanian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah.

The two leaders reviewed the development of bilateral relations between the two countries in accordance with the decisions taken during the meetings held between them in Tripoli in 1974 and in Banghazi in 1979, and in Bucharest in 1981 and 1983. They expressed their satisfaction at what has been achieved in this respect and underlined the importance of strengthening cooperation between the two friendly countries, as well as consolidating and promoting cooperation in the interest of the two peoples in the context of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed between the two countries in Bucharest in 1983.

The two sides underlined the considerable progress achieved in the promotion of cooperation in various economic and technical fields, and expressed their conviction that the Arab Libyan-Romanian cooperation is being strengthened in all domains and represents a strong boost for their efforts to secure economic and social progress for the two countries. They emphasized that relations between the Jamahiriyah and Romania are an example of relations on equal footing between states and in the promotion of cooperation between their respective countries, in increasing efforts for the achievement of a new international economic order and in strengthening understanding among peoples of the world.

The two leaders agreed to exert all efforts to boost cooperation in the promotion of agriculture, industry, oil, transportation and in other fields. For this reason a general agreement was signed on economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the SPLAJ and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The two sides highly appreciated the efforts of the joint committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation and its role in promoting cooperation and the increase of trade exchanges between the two countries.

The two sides discussed the current international situation and expressed their deep concern over the tension and the grave deterioration of international relations as a result of imperialist policies and the attempts to impose hegemony, influence and interference in others' domestic affairs, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, the expansion of zones of influence, the escalation of the arms race and its introduction to outer space, and the economic crisis and the gap between the developing and advanced states.

The two sides expressed their profound concern regarding the arms race and the allocation of vast human, material, and financial capabilities for military purposes, which constitutes a heavy burden on all peoples and represents a constant danger to international security and world peace. They reaffirmed that the grave danger represented in the nuclear arms race could lead to a nuclear catastrophe liable to destroy the world. They expressed their conviction that the preservation of peace and security and cooperation among the peoples make it imperative to halt the arms race, to adopt effective measures for the realization of nuclear disarmament, and to halt production and development of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass annihilation.

The two sides reaffirmed that the deployment of nuclear missiles by the United States in Europe and the Mediterranean region has created an atmosphere of tension in the region, which constitutes a grave threat to world peace and security and has led to the Soviet Union's countermeasures in Europe. The two sides emphasized the necessity to halt the deployment of nuclear missiles, to withdraw and destroy the missiles which currently exist, and to remove all nuclear weapons from Europe and the Mediterranean.

They also stressed the necessity of action for transforming the Mediterranean region into a peaceful region free of foreign bases and the danger of nuclear terror. The two sides stressed the necessity for liquidating military bases and banning shows of force along the borders of other countries and their territorial waters in an attempt to intimidate and threaten them. The two sides agreed to participate in the efforts being made to bring success to the superpower talks in Geneva on nuclear disarmament and the halting of the militarization of outer space.

With regard to the Middle East and the Palestinian question, each side reaffirmed its firm attitude in this connection. The two sides declared their stand against any show of force or threat or military provocations along the territorial border and waters of other states. They denounce imperialist attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of other nations. They resolutely demand that a final end be put to such policies and actions as those which took place in the Gulf of Sidra, which could lead to a deterioration of the international situation and which constitute a danger to peace and security in the region and in all parts of the world.

In this connection, the Romanian side expressed its support for the Jamahiriyah in its total right to defend its territorial waters and air space. The views of both sides are identical regarding the right for states to obtain fair compensation for all the damages they sustain as a result of occupation and colonization and the vestiges of wars which constitued and still constitute an obstacle hindering their progress and development in accordance with the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Nonaligned Movement.

The two countries reaffirm the importance of Arab unity which represents a national aim for the peoples of the Arab nation. They reaffirm the necessity of strengthening the anti-imperialist front in the Arab homeland and the realization of the Arab nation's aspirations for freedom, and socioeconomic advancement.

The two leaders reviewed the situation in the African Continent and pointed out the progress realized by the African peoples in their struggle for freedom, independence, and socioeconomic progress.

They expressed their profound concern over the constant interference by the forces of imperialism and neocolonialism and racism, in all their forms, in the internal affairs of the African countries, and the escalation of conspiracies and hostile actions against the African peoples. The two sides condemned this intereference, which represents a threat to the African peoples' security and safety and obstructs their progress and development.

The two sides reaffirmed their solidarity with and support for the just struggle being waged by the people of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Namibian people, for the realization of their national independence. The two sides condemned the policy of racial discrimination in southern Africa and reaffirmed their support for the struggle of the people of South Africa for freedom and democratic rights and the liquidation of racial discrimination. The two sides reaffirmed the importance of the solidarity and unity of action of the African states in their bid to consolidate their independence and to stand against any foreign interference.

The two sides reaffirmed their backing for the efforts being made by the OAU and the other African states for the realization of security and peace in Chad, and the securing of national reconciliation in accordance with the Lagos Accord and with the participation of all the Chadian factions which signed the Lagos Accord.

The two sides declared their full solidarity with and their support for the struggle being waged by the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for national independence and the establishment of international economic relations on a basis of justice and equality. They denounced all imperialist attempts to impose domination over these peoples. The two sides reaffirmed anew the importance of the cohesion among all peoples and progressive forces in confronting imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, and racism in all its forms and for progress, freedom, independence, and peace.

The two sides praised the significant role played by the Nonaligned Movement and its struggle against imperialism, racism, and colonialism in all its forms, and the bolstering of independence and economic development among these states, and for working for the reduction of international tension and the establishment of world peace and security.

The two sides expressed their concern over the aggravation of the economic crisis and its serious effects on the developing countries, and expressed their conviction that the establishment of a new international economic system is the only way for solving the current international economic crisis and guaranteeing equal development of the developing states. In this connection the two sides reaffirmed the importance of convening a conference of developing countries and the necessity of adopting measures for cooperation between the developing states to secure their economic and social progress, and for laying down a joint strategy in the comprehensive negotiations with the advanced states to realize the developing states' control over their own resources and the use of these resources for the aims of their development and growth.

Regarding the United Nations, the two sides agreed on the necessity of amending the UN Charter in a manner which guarantees the realization of the principle of equality among all UN members in the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The two leaders expressed their total satisfaction with the new Romanian-Libyan high-level meeting and the talks held and the understanding which prevailed at these talks. The great significance of this meeting, with regard to the consolidation of the ties of friendship and cooperation between the SPLAJ and the Socialist Republic of Romania in the interest and the well-being of both peoples, was noted.

President Nicolae Ceausescu, the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Mrs Ceausescu expressed their warm thanks to Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, and to the Libyan Arab people for the warm welcome and hospitality given to them. President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu invited Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, to pay an official friendly visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. Its date will be arranged later.

Issued in Tripoli 6 March 1985.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Lebanese, Palestinian Leaders

LD062227 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Following the announcement made by the brother leader of the revolution for the formation of the pan-Arab command to lead the revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland, the brother leader of the revolution conferred this evening with members of the Lebanese National Democratic Front represented by Walid Junblatt, leader of the Socialist Progressive Party and the Front's secretary; George Hawi, secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party; 'Umar Harb, secretary general of the Lebanese Socialist Union; lawyer George Haddad, deputy official in charge of international relations in the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; (Joseph al-Sab'ali), member of the Higher Council of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party. Palestinian leaders attending were: Brother Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary of the Palestine National Liberation movement and member of the Revolutionary Council; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command; Samir Ghawshah of the Popular Struggle Front; Muhammad Khalifah, secretary of the PLO Executive Committee; 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front.

The meeting was attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

Abu Nidal Attends Conference

AU071055 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Paris, March 7 (AFP) — Abu Nidal, the hard-line Palestinian leader whose whereabouts is causing confusion among analysts, was at a conference with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi last night, the Libyan news agency JANA monitored here reported today. The agency said he was among several Palestinian and Lebanese leaders who met Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in connection with the Arab nationionalist revolutionary command, whose creation the Libyan head of state announced last Saturday.

The Lebanese delegation was headed by Druze leader Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism in the Beirut goovernment, JANA said.

A French journalist said earlier this month that Abu Nidal, who is accused of responsibility for a number of terrorist incidents, had given him an interview in the Syrian-held Al-Biqa' Valley in Lebanon. But yesterday the Paris-based Third World magazine *Afrique-Asie* claimed that he was undergoing lengthy treatment in an East European hospital.

Abu Nidal is head of the extremist Fatah Revolutionary Council, which was expelled from the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1974.

Hungarian Foreign Trade Minister Leaves 5 Mar
LD062229 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli 5 Mar (JANA) — Hungarian Foreign Trade Minister Peter Veress left Tripoli this afternoon after having attended the opening of the 20th Tripoli international fair.

Libyan General People's Congress Resolutions
LD061718 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1535 GMT 2 Mar 85

["Text" of resolutions of the General People's Congress read by unidentified deputy secretary of the General People's Congress at its closing session in Tripoli — live]

[Text] Resolutions of the people's congresses in their 3d ordinary session for the year 93/94 from the death of the prophet corresponding to 1985, drafted by the plenary meeting of the basic people's congresses, popular committees, trade unions, vocation associations and societies of the General People's Congress in its 10th ordinary session in the period from 5 to 9 Jumada al-Akhir 1394, corresponding to 26 February 1985 to 2 March 1985.

First: In pursuance of the decision of the Basic People's Congress in their 3d ordinary session for 1983 drafted at the 9th general meeting for 1983, the basic people's congresses reviewed the decisions taken during their 3d ordinary session and drafted at the General People's Congress in its 9th session 92/93 after the death of the prophet corresponding to 1984. They have expressed their satisfaction with the decisions which have been implemented and realized, but they point out the shortcomings which characterized the implementation of the congress decisions:

1. The employment of students;
2. The reduction of manpower in the people's administrative apparatus and its orientation to work in production centers;
3. The reduction of foreign manpower;
4. The reduction of allowances for travelling abroad;
5. Program of general mobilization;
6. Giving importance to agricultural marketing.

Although the basic people's congresses asserted, in their decisions drafted at the 9th session of the General People's Congress, the need to implement the same decisions, the basic people's congresses observe a continuing failure to implement them. The basic people's congresses therefore assert the need to implement these decisions and the submission of a periodic monitoring report to the basic people's congresses during their forthcoming ordinary sessions in order to know the degree of implementation of the decisions and the difficulties facing the people's committees in this field.

The basic people's congresses observe the need to take into consideration the remarks of some basic people's congresses on stressing agricultural orientation, agricultural manpower, population distribution on production basis, the need for clarity in the monitoring reports submitted, to lay down a storage scheme, draft regulations for cars owned by the people, study the amalgamation of municipalities, training and qualifications, application of socialist service, expansion of the small industries foundation, orientation of consumption and support for cooperative associations and unification of prices.

Second: In pursuance of the implementation of the transformation budget for 1984, the basic people's congresses discussed the implementation of the transformation budget for 1984 and expressed their satisfaction with what has been realized so far, and decided on the following steps:

1. Implementation of the remaining parts of the transformation plan, taking into consideration the following:

A. — To implement the projects in accordance with the available means and in conformity with the decisions of the basic people's congresses in the previous sessions;
B. — To concentrate on the implementation of production projects.

2. To work toward finding new sources of financing in addition to oil revenues;

3. Approving the extra expenditure.

Third: Setting the administrative budget for 1985:

1. The basic people's congresses endorse the administrative budget for 94/95 after the death of the prophet corresponding to 1985 with a limit of 1.200 billion dinars. It affirms the following:

A. Commitment to spend within the limits of the figures set in the budget;
B. Developing self-sufficient resources in every municipality in order to save for covering the expenses of the administrative budget;
C. Raising the quality of customs and tax department;
D. Reduction of the administrative apparatus;
E. Cancellation of paragraph C/2 of the memorandum.

2. The basic people's congresses decide the budget and assistance of the Armed Forces for 1985.

Internal Policy

1. The economic sector:

Discussion of the balance of payment for goods: The basic people's congresses decided on the import balance of payment for 1985 and the parties responsible for its execution, acting in conjunction with the indicated rules and regulations within the limits of a total figure of 2.518 billion dinars, and affirmed the following:

A. Supporting and developing local production, and the development of national industries, and encouraging particularly those whose raw materials are available locally;

B. Confirming the production of necessary goods which cannot be produced locally;

C. Granting priority to saving foods, chemicals, and medical products;

D. Allocating part of the budget toward setting up and developing production lines so as to expand local production and those which fulfill citizen's needs;

E. Expanding companies and general installations, and benefiting from locally produced commodities;

F. Paying attention to marketing of agricultural and animal produce, and encouraging the development of animal resources, and a reduction in their import;

G. Expanding workshops and the production of accessories;

H. Taking into consideration all imports alongside the needs of consumers and pursuing the unification of prices;

I. Paying attention to the development of maritime resources, and supporting the cooperative societies of fishermen and the reduction of fish imports;

J. Increasing the number of consumer societies and supporting them materially and with guarantees that sufficiently cover needs of sthe citizens and participating in the guidance of the volume of consumption;

K. Taking into consideration the imports from neighboring and friendly states which link them and the Jamahiriyah's trade agreements;

L. The People's Committee for Economy and Light Industries can reduce the allowances of any of the items, and redirect them toward production schemes taking into consideration the remarks of the basic people's congresses and the scale of the prescribed amount.

2. The business sector:

The organization of companies and public enterprises in the field of economy: The General People's Congress decided to organize companies and public enterprises in the field of economy, affirming the following:

A. Amalgamation of companies and enterprises of the same function so long as their activity does not stipulate their functioning;

B. Opening branches for companies and enterprises within the municipalities and their branches;

C. Administrating companies and enterprises through people's committees in accordance with the people's committees constitution;

D. Taking into consideration the organization and distribution of production and scrutinizing the prices;

E. Implementing socialist service in the marketable companies and enterprises;

F. Directing and qualifying nationai cadres for the administration and operating of these companies and enterprises.

3. The education sector:

Education structure: The basic people's congresses decided to approve the new educational structure, taking into consideration the remarks they made; Libyans' participation in teaching, and decided to approve the participation of Libyans in teaching, affirming the following points:

A. Coordination with the quarters concerned to insure the success of this program;

B. Returning qualified teachers to the teaching sector;

C. Granting incentives to people entrusted with teaching.

Field study: The basic people's congresses decided to approve the program of field study and the linking of university study with work and making it obligatory for those concerned to offer the necessary facilities for drawing up a scientific and practical program.

4. The health sector:

Setting up the rules and regulations for treatment abroad. The basic people's congress affirm the following:

A. Setting up specified medical centers and supporting them with medical equipment and cadres and associating them with medical colleges, the choice of highly qualified foreign cadres to visit hospitals and to do away with treatment abroad for ambulatory cases;

B. Limiting the sending abroad of those cases where local treatment is not available, and providing facilities for such treatment;

C. Supporting and encouraging local expertise in as much as specialized medical cadres are formed;

D. Covering the expanses of sending cases abroad if the amount exceeds the prescribed fees;

E. Permitting treatment for Libyans at their own cost in conjunction with the regulations in the memo.

Treatment of foreigners: The basic people's congresses agreed with the memorandum on the treatment of foreigners provided the People's Committee for Health sets up the necessary regulations in accordance with the resolutions of the basic people's congresses.

5. The housing and utilities sector:

The basic people's congresses have decided to approve the memorandum of application of the dictum: The house for the occupier, and setting up specifications of suitable housing, and stressed:

A. Setting up specifications of suitable housing and

presenting them to the basic people's congresses taking into account the physical and social conditions in the villages and the city;

B. Speeding up the issue of the leaflet on accomodation and its application;

C. Ending the use of residential buildings as offices and public utilities.

The basic people's congresses have decided not to make use of residential buildings as offices and public utilities and working toward transferring production companies and corporations to production centers.

Housing credit and housing societies: The basic people's congresses have approved the memorandum concerned with housing credit and stressed:

A. Providing loans and completion of loans from all banks and housing societies with charges for services;

B. Supporting cooperative and housing societies and savings and property investment banks and setting up procedures for repaying loans after completion of building.

Building of houses, utilities such as schools and health units, should be restricted to Libyans: The basic people's congresses have decided to limit the building of houses and public utilities such as schools and health units to Libyans, taking into account the following:

A. Supporting national companies to increase their contributions in building houses and public utilities and setting up procedures for supervision;

B. Transferring special technical capabilities from building to field activities and giving them bonuses;

C. Opening training centers for building and maintenance businesses;

D. Providing equipment and building materials and encouraging families to build their homes by themselves on a self-help basis;

E. Establishing more ready-made building factories in municipalities.

Public services sector: Reevaluation of vocational and professional training programs. The basic people's congresses have decided to revalue the vocational and professional training program and stressed the following:

A. Working toward the development and expansion of training centers to cover all fields in different parts of the Jamahiriyah;

B. Sending students to vocational training centers according to need and providing bonuses for them;

C. Making it obligatory for a trainee to work in the field of his training and not to allow him to move to a different field;

D. Providing raw materials and other materials to training centers.

6. The public administrative control sector:

The basic people's committee discussed the report of the Central System of the Public Administrative Control and showed satisfaction with the contents of the report, stressing the following:

A. Supporting the system by manpower and material in order that all many be able to follow it up meticulously;

B. Working toward depending on universities and Libyan Arab expertise in studying projects and supervising them during implementation;

C. Questioning and demanding an accounting from all parties concerned with the loss of money from society's treasury and providing all information about misappropiation of funds and;

D. Submitting the reports of the central system during the meeting of the congresses in their ordinary session;

E. Stressing the establishment of offices for the central system in municipalities;

F. Defining the reasons for administrative slackness and proposing useful solutions for solving it;

G. Speeding up decisions on issues and offences;

H. All parties should be able to control and to seize committed offences. [sentence as heard]

7. Accounting sector:

The basic people's congresses discussed the reports of the Accounting Department and showed satisfaction with the contents of the report, stressing the following:

A. Supporting the Accounting Department with specified national cadres to enable them to carry out their missions;

B. Amending Law No 79 for 1975 and submitting it to the basic people's congresses;

C. Bringing to account all companies and institutions which violated procedures and laws and, following up all projects, drawing attention to violations before they are committed and concentrating on follow-up action.

The basic people's congresses discussed the report of the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank and the Libyan Arab Corporation for Foreign Investment. Expressing satisfaction, they stressed the following:

A. Supporting the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank in material and human terms by qualified national elements and the selection of the countries suitable for carrying out activities in and the submission of periodic reports on its activities;

B. Expansion in opening banks and joint specialized companies, especially with sisterly and friendly countries;

C. Expanding the size of investments after ensuring the sound basis of these companies and the achievement of their objectives.

8. Public issues:

Popularization: The basic people's congresses have decided to implement popularization, stressing the remarks made by some basic people's congresses:

A. Setting up a comprehensive scientific program conductive for implementation;

B. Keeping the financial privileges of the popularized group;

C. Concentrating on the element of desire and choice;

D. Taking into account health and social conditions;

E. The popularization period should not exceed 6 months;

F. Postponement of popularization in sensitive technical positions;

G. Implementation of popularization within similar activities;

H. Concentration on students in the first step of the implementation;

I. Giving Libyan women activities suitable to their abilities. Implementation of this decision does not apply to congresses which postponed the implementation of the popularization until they absorb it. These congresses are included in an attached table.

8. The masses district sector:

The basic people's congresses agreed on the memorandum concerned with the masses district, taking into consideration the comments raised by these congresses that implementation does not apply to the congresses which decided on postponement until they absorb this new civilized postulate, which is included in an attached table. These comments are:

A. Stress on training to establish the masses district;

B. Preparing a budget for the running of the masses district from the society's treasury whichcan be in the form of loans to be repaid by the inhabitant of the district;

C. Encouraging craftsmen working in the masses district;

D. Stressing the establishment of consumer societies inside masses district and the possibility of making use of some markets for this purpose;

E. Determing models for the implementation of the principle of the masses districts to make use of them, especially in cities;

F. Taking into account population density in terms of provision of facilities and technical specialization, and supporting them with the required necessary services;

G. Working for the masses district voluntarily and without pay;

H. Encouraging those who are being used from outside the masses district;

I. Planning masses districts in the future in accordance with specification of the masses district;

J. Possibility of participation of more than one basic people's congress in establishing one mass district.

Transforming cities and civilized population centers into productive cities and gatherings: The basic people's congresses have decided to transform the cities and population centers into productive cities and gatherings, taking into account the following observations:

A. Stressing training in professional fields, with excess employment to be transferred to production units in accordance to experience and specialization;

B. Allocating productive industrial and agricultural units near civilized population centers to be devoted to increasing productive capability and realization of self-sufficiency by reclamation of new lands;

C. Taking into account the establishment of civilized population centers and cities in the future on productive and industrial bases;

D. Assembling professionals and craftsmen in productive cooperatives;

E. Encouraging emigration from cities to the country and providing required services for the return of farm owners to their farms to continue their original activities;

F. Amending the sixth paragraph of the memorandum by giving priority to the original land owners;

G. Directing families to local home industries in collaboration with local factories;

H. Redistribution of farms proved to have been neglected, giving priority to those of limited income;

I. Reassertion of the implementation of the coastal line.

9. Reorganization of the Secretariat of Justice:

The basic people's congresses have decided to approve the memorandum on the transfer of responsibilities and duties connected with external security and the Jamahiriyah security authority to the General People's Committee for Justice and to reorganize it according to rules mentioned in the memorandum, taking into consideration the remarks made by the basic people's congresses, especially:

A. Consolidating the security sector with revolutionary elements which believe in the cause of Jamahiriyah and are concerned with the security and comfort of the country.

B. Supporting the General People's Committee for Justice with the necessary resources, which will enable it to fulfill its duties;

C. Amending Article 3 enabling the General People's Committee to issue a decree reorganizing the Justice Secretariat in ling with the provisions of this law and taking into consideration Law 13 regarding the popular committees and the amended Law 14.

10. National companies and enterprises sector:

Determination of the powers and responsibilities of the secretariats of public services for economy and planning: The basic people's congresses decided to determine the powers of the secretariats of public services for economy and planning in accordances with the resolution submitted taking into consideration their observations.

The study of problems and difficulties facing the national companies: The basic people's congresses endorsed the resolution containing the study of the problems facing the national companies and enterprises, taking into account the following observations:

A. Not to amalgamate ailing companies as this may further its state while implementing the projects; [as heard]

B. Easing credits to secure materials not available internally, needed by the projects;

C. Laying down scientific administrative bases for each company and enterprise;

D. Allowing national companies to bring in technical manpower not available locally;

E. Not allowing national companies to enter into contracts with foreign companies;

F. The application of delay penalties;

G. Not to expand the purchase of offices and furniture or of public expenditure;

H. The determination of national companies and enterprises which followed up the transition phase and the submitting of reports to the basic people's congresses;

I. To respect specialization in companies;

J. Not to exaggerate national companies' prices and to provide for the needs of the citizens;

K. Not to second [as heard] those working in the companies and the people's committees to work abroad;

L. To bring engineers and technicians from other sectors to national companies and enterprises for field work to improve their efficiency;

M. Not to overspend.

11. Tourism and people's recreation:

The basic people's congresses approved the resolution on tourism and people's recreation, taking into consideration the following observations:

A. To give importance to children's recreation;

B. To preserve archeological monuments;

C. To give importance to distant areas and encourage desert tourism;

D. To support authorities which contribute to the programs of people's recreation and assert its promotion;

E. Setting up and developing cinemas throughout the Jamahiriyah;

F. Enlarging the base of the masses' theater embracing all parts of the Jamahiriyah;

G. To assert the directive of the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution in the fields of tourism and recreation;

H. The need to compile a guidebook and a booklet of Jamahiriyah tourist maps;

I. To give importance to natural baths and summer resorts;

J. To supply recreation facilities for the handicapped;

K. Setting up a budget for tourism and recreation;

L. The recreation activities shall be in conformity with our Islamic customs and morals.

12. Distribution of profits and savings:

The basic people's congresses approved the resolution taking into consideration that profit is incompatible with the concept of the new socialist society. However, as long as profit is transitional it should be distributed among savers until it is eliminated by the reality of economic activity.

13. Foreign companies sector:

The basic people's congresses approved the resolution containing this subject, but the following should be asserted: Support national companies, do away with foreign companies, and punish contractors linked with impotent foreign companies.

14. Luxury cars:

The basic people's congresses approved a resolution concerning luxury cars, taking into consideration the following observations and ammendments:

A. Cancellation of the section on price increases on fuels from Paragraph 4;

B. Banning the import of luxury cars except for security authorities and the protocols department;

C. Increasing customs duty on and prices of spare parts for luxury cars;

D. (?Asserting) transportation means on installment terms;

E. Banning secretariats, enterprises and companies from using luxury cars;

F. Providing spare parts and setting up specialized technical workshops.

12. Qualification of Secretariat appointees:

The basic people's congresses approved the memorandum related to specifications of those selected to secretariats of basic people's congresses and committees, taking into consideration the following observations:

A. The person selected (?must) provide a financial obligation statement before and after being selected;

B. This person must have completed military training;

C. The person selected must be committed to attending meetings of the basic people's congresses by way of attendance records of the congress;

D. The preparation of dossiers for those selected, each within the framework of his basic popular congress, adhering to truth in all information submitted;

E. The selected member must be a national of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

13. Responsibilities of people's committees:

One of the bases of the people's authority is that the people's congresses choose people's committees to implement their decisions. These committees are responsible for these congresses which have the freedom to question, account for and dismiss these committees whenever necessary. As for implementation of the decisions of the people's congresses related to questioning these committees, all observations are to be collected from each sector presented by the congresses and submitted to the people's congresses, while those concerned with the general people's committee are to be submitted to the General People's Congress for appropriate action.

14. Agricultural sector:

The basic people's congresses discussed the memorandum pre-

sented to them about neglected and unused agricultural lands and approved it with the following observations:

A. Warning owners of unused and neglected land to make use of it, otherwise these lands will be distributed in accordance with a family's sufficiency;

B. Studing the reasons which made the proprietors leave and neglect their farms and to find solutions for these reasons;

C. Dividing agricultural lands into production units with economic return, and then distribution of these units to nationals to utilize these units by themselves for family sufficiency;

D. Dividing the Jamahiriyah into three regions: coastal, pastoral and unirrigated lands, and interiors and oases. Individual ownership must be determined, and types of interiors and oases must be determined in each region and area to be utilized;

E. Priority must be given to utilization by and benefit of relatives and heirs;

F. Lands used for grazing and cultivation of grains are to be exempted;

G. Unsuccessful projects are to be transformed into grain farms;

H. Stressing the previous decision related to the coastline;

I. Agricultural lands, after being reclaimed, must be distributed to beneficaries according to priority.

15. Participation of Libyans in companies:

The basic people's congresses approved the content of the memorandum and a proposed law to be prepared, including their observations in this respect to be presented for approval.

Laws and Resolutions Passed by Congress

1. Law to establish a public corporation for ports: The basic people's congresses decided to issue a law on the establishment of the public corporation in accordance with the proposed (?law), taking into account the observations of the basic people's congresses.

2. Law to establish a public corporation for airports: The basic people's congresses discussed the proposed law on the public corporation for airports, and approved it.

3. Law to compensate lawsuits due to the implementation of the revolutionary dictum in accordance with the leading revolutionary dictums and the establishment of the new socialist society: The basic people's congresses decided to issue a law concerning compensation of lawsuits due to the implementation of the revolutionary dictums, taking into account the observation of the basic people's congresses.

4. Law on public behavior crimes: The general people's congresses decided to pass a law, including observations and amendments presented by the basic people's congresses and not in contradiction with the precepts of the Koran, on public behavior.

5. Law related to some of the statutes of public building ownership and uses: The basic people's congresses discussed the law and decided to issue it, taking into account the observations of the basic people's congresses.

6. Law related to crimes of misuse of profession or job: The basic people's congresses decided to issue the law including the observations and amendments presented by the basic people's congresses.

7. law related to amendments of some of the statutes of the law of the people's committees.

8. Law adding some provisions to the law on salaries: The basic popular congresses have discussed this law and approved its promulgation, taking into consideration the remarks made by the basic popular congresses.

9. Law on rules for purging the administrative machinery: The basic popular congresses discussed the draft law and approved its promulgation, containing the remarks made by the basic popular congresses.

10. Law on the establishment of building companies: The basic popular congresses approved the draft law, taking into consideration the remarks they have made.

11. Law on local people's security: The basic popular congresses have discussed the draft law and approved its promulgation containing the remarks and amendments they made concerning it.

12. Law on the organization of the vocation of shepherd: The basic popular congresses discussed the draft law and approved its promulgation, taking into consideration the remarks and amendments received from the basic popular congresses.

13. Law on basic pensions: The basic popular congresses approved the draft law, taking into consideration the remarks made by them.

14. Law on medical responsibility: The basic popular congresses discussed the draft law and approved its promulgation containing the remarks made by them.

15. Law on the provisions of partnerships [tasharukiyyat]: In line with pioneering revolutionary axioms and in realization of the new socialist society, the basic popular congresses approved the law on partnership, taking into consideration the remarks made by them.

16. Law on travel documents: The basic popular congresses approved the draft law on travel documents, taking into consideration the amendments and remarks made by them.

17. Law amending the provisions of the Civil Service Law: The basic popular congresses discussed the amendment to some of the provisions of the Civil Service Law, and approved it with the inclusion of the remarks and amendments they made.

18. Law on the establishment of a public company for informa-

tion: The basic popular congresses discussed the law on the establishment of the Public Company for Information and approved its promulgation, with the inclusion of the remarks and amendments made.

19. Law on luxury houses: The basic popular congresses discussed the draft law on luxury houses and approved its promulgation, provided that consideration is given to the remarks and amendments received from the basic popular congresses.

20. Amendment of some of the provisions of Social Security Law No 13, for the year 1980: The basic popular congresses discussed the question of amending some of the provisions of Social Security Law No 13 for the year 1980, and approved its promulgation, taking into consideration the amendments and remarks made by them.

21. Law on making nepotism and intercedence crimes: The basic popular congresses approved the draft law, taking into consideraton the remarks received from the basic popular congresses, the most important of which provide for increasing penalties, with the addition of moral penalties being the real deterrant.

22. Law amending some of the provisions of the Law on Banks and Loans: The basic popular congresses discussed the law pertaining to real estate saving and investment bank and approved it, providing it includes the amendments and remarks received from the basic popular congresses.

Foreign policy

1. The report of the People's Committee of the Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison: The basic popular congresses express their satisfaction with the contents of the report submitted by the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, stressing the following notes:

A. Support the Popular Bureau for Foreign Liaison to increase its effectiveness in order to confront the imperialist forces hostile to the Arab nation;

B. Affirm the stand with the causes of liberation and freedom;

C. Operate in foreign policy through the important Arab, Islamic, African, and international links;

D. Present the activities of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stage by stage to the basic people's congresses before they are held by a sufficient period of time.

2. Jamahiriyah's relations with Britain: The congresses affirm the following:

A. Link up relationship with the British people and their popular organizations;

B. Ask Britain to refrain from harboring and looking after those escaping the justice of the Libyan Arab people and to hand them to the Jamahiriyah;

C. Ask Britain to stop all hostile actions and the tendentious information campaigns against the Jamahiriyah;

D. Ask Britain to release the detained prisoners in Britain and to stop all provocations against Libyan Arab citizens.

3. Agreements and treaties signed during 1984: The basic popular congresses approved the treaties and agreements signed by the Jamahiriyah during 1984 in a way that does not conflict with the prevailing laws in the Jamahiriyah and gives priority to the agreements and treaties signed with the sister Arab countries.

4. Studying the phenomenon of some countries' resumption of relations with the Egyptian regime:

A. The basic people's congresses condemned the Arab regimes which have resumed relations with the Egyptian regime which violates the Arab League Charter and Baghdad summit resolutions;

B. They [basic people's congresses] stress the revolutionary and principled stand of boycotting the Egyptian regime until the abrogation of the stable David accords;

C. Instigate the Arab masses and their revolutionary and progressive forces to work to abort the stable David accords.

5. The Zionist expansion in the African Continent:

A. The basic people's congresses decided to confront the Zionist infiltration in Africa by exposing schemes aimed at controlling the continent by way of an effective and purposeful information initiative;

B. Emphasizing previous decisions on freezing relations with any African country resuming its relations with the Zionists;

C. Backing the African liberation movements hostile to colonialism and racism in southern Africa, allied with the Zionist entity;

D. Increasing the linkage of the Jamahiriyah's political, cultural, and economic relations with African countries;

E. Drawing up a strategic plan for the Arab, African, and Islamic movements to persuade the African countries which have resumed their relations with the Zionists to severe them, and to prevent other countries from resuming their relations.

6. The Palestinian issue and its developments:

A. Continuing the support of the fighting Palestinian factions and particularly the new Fatah movement;

B. Opening the Arab fronts before the Palestinian resistance, unifying its factions inside and outside [Palestine], and calling upon all Palestinians to carry arms to confront the Zionist invaders;

C. Condemning the suspicious moves of Arab reactionary regimes and the Palestinian revisionists who are aiming to liquidate the central Arab cause — Palestine;

D. Supporting the Syrian and Lebanese Arab people to enable them to effectively confront the Zionist entity;

E. Calling on the Arab People's Congress to put Yasir 'Arafat on trial.

7. The organization of friendship and brotherhood associations:

A. Backing the friendship and brotherhood associations and establishing more of them [words indistinct] particularly with the peoples who support the Arab nation and its issues;

B. Organizing the friendship and brotherhood associations in a general league, provided that the activities of

the associations be put to the basic people's congresses;

C. Emphasizing the principle of establishing relations with the peoples through these associations, and employing the associations to propagate the universal theory — the theory of the Jamahiriyah;

D. Coordination to be conducted between the popular circles relating to the associations' programs.

8. Requesting Turkey to hand over the documents which it has, and its responsibility in handing Libya over to Italy: The basic people's congresses have discussed the question of requesting Turkey to hand over the documents which it has and its responsibility in handing over Libya to Italy and have decided the following:

A. Turkey is to bear the historical responsibility for handing over Libya to Italy, and Turkey is requested to return all the documents it has;

B. Calling on Turkey to sever its relations with the Zionist entity. The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison is to be charged with following up this matter.

9. Calling upon Arabs to put the Jordanian regime on trial.

A. Condemning the Jordanian regime for its violation of the Baghdad summit resolutions and bypassing Arab unanimity;

B. Backing the Arab revolutionary forces and particularly the Jordanian forces with the aim of overthrowing the capitulative course of the Jordanian regime;

C. Calling on Arab popular organizations and bodies, through the Arab People's Congress, to put the Jordanian regime on trial;

D. To act through the Arab League to boycott the Jordanian regime.

10. Taking a stand vis-a-vis the states which protected the stray dogs:

A. Taking a decisive stand toward the states which protected the fugitives of the stray dogs, considering it as an aggressive act against the Arab Libyan people which calls for a response;

B. Demanding that the states which protect fugitives to directly hand them over to the Jamahiriyah or through Inter pol;

C. Backing hostile [to the regime] and opposition movements inside any state which protects and shelters the fugitives;

D. Emphasizing the principled stand of the basic people's congresses concerning the liquidation and pursuit of the stray dogs.

11. Asking Italy to compensate for the damages resulting from the invasion of Libya:

A. Obliging Italy to pay compensation for the losses incurred by the Arab Libyan people as a result of the fascist Italian invasion of Libya;

B. Asking Italy, Britain, Germany and the other states that had planted mines in the Libyan territory to remove them; making them bear the responsibility for the damage caused by the planting of mines and asking them for compensation;

C. Asking the Italian Government to remove the American nuclear warheads from the Comiso base in southern Italy, as this constitutes a threat to the Arab Libyan people.

12. Reviewing the unionist steps undertaken with Syria, Algeria, and Tunisia and the respective positions of these states to the African Arab union:

A. Adherence and commitment to all the unionist steps taken with the Arab states;

B. Inviting Syria, Algeria, and Tunisia to observe the unionist agreements concluded with them, and to work for their implementation;

C. Urging all Arab states to join the African Arab Union as a core for comprehensive Arab unity;

D. Continuing the holding meetings between the General People's Committee in the Jamahiriyah and the councils of ministers in Tunisia, Algeria, Syria and the YAR, and also between the General People's Congress and the national assemblies of these states.

13. Discussing the Egyptian regime's violation of the Arab republics union:

A. Condemning the Egyptian regime for violating the spirit and resolutions of the Arab republics' union, and the fact that its decision to take Egypt out of the union is illegal;

B. Urging the dynamic forces in the Egyptian people to forego their responsibility to this regime that has belittled the unionist will of the Egyptian people;

C. Reactivation of the unionist corporations and inviting the Presidential Council and the Unionist National Assembly to hold a meeting.

General Resolutions

1. The creation of a secretariat for scientific research and the selection of Brother Dr Musa Muhammad 'Umar as secretary of the Committee of the Trustees of the Scientific Research Center.

2. The entrusting to the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning the task of secretary for petroleum, in addition to his other duties.

3. In compliance with Article No 5 of the treaty on the union between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Socialist Republic and the Moroccan Kingdom, the brothers named in an appended list will be appointed members of the board of the Arab-African Union.

TUNISIA

French Minister Begins Visit to Tunis 6 Mar

LD062338 Paris Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Roland Dumas, French minister of external relations, arrived this evening in Tunis for a 24-hour visit. He is to have

talks with President Habib Bourguiba as well as with the Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat. This working visit is within the framework of contacts between the French minister and all Maghreb countries. At a moment when diplomatic activities are being stepped up in the Middle East, Roland Dumas' meeting with Yasir 'Arafat acquires particular importance.

Makes Arrival Statement

LD062348 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Roland Dumas, French minister of external relations, arrived this evening in Tunis for a short visit. He was welcomed by Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and the French ambassador to Tunisia.

The French minister expressed pleasure at being once again in Tunisia, which he had visited in the past in his capacity as accredited minister for European affairs. Having noted that this would be his first visit to this friendly country in his capacity as French minister of external relations, he said he will begin talks tomorrow with Tunisian officials, foremost among them President Habib Bourguiba.

He said: I attach special importance to these talks. Concerning the issues to be discussed, the French official said they concern the widening of the EEC with the admission of Spain and Portugal starting in January 1986, as well as various facets of bilateral cooperation, which he described as being very good. He also said that he would be discussing with Tunisian officials the international and Arab Maghrebian situations. He praised the active role which Tunisia plays in the Maghreb.

Prime Minister Holds Talks With Polish Official

LD070120 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] This evening Premier Mohamed Mzali discussed Tunisian-Polish relations and the means for their development, especially in the economic and trade fields, with Polish Foreign Minister [as heard] Ernest Kucza.

The Polish official stressed the eagerness of both countries to increase the volume of their exchanges, particularly in relation to Polish sulfur and Tunisian phosphate. He expressed full satisfaction at the results of his fruitful visit to Tunisia, confirming that it has had positive results, producing new ideas which will facilitate the development of bilateral relations in the interests of the two countries.

ETHIOPIA

Government Bombs Villages in Reprisal for TPLF Attack

EA061818 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali 0930 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF, launched an attack on an enemy base between the towns of Chercher and Gugubo in Tigray Province on 2 March.

The TPLF fighters killed and wounded more than 130 enemy soldiers and took 8 others prisoner. The TPLF fighters captured 41 light and heavy guns, 7 army radio communication sets, and 2 106-mm field guns. The report adds that the enemy soldiers lost three tanks and one military vehicle.

The report further adds that in a reprisal attack, Abyssinian military jets bombed the towns of Abi Adi, Abaguna, and (Serero), destroying a very large number of houses.

The TPLF recently released a statement on the great concentration of Abyssinian troops in and around Tigray Province. The latest reports say that several mechanized divisions of Abyssinian troops are stationed in that area.

KENYA

Air Transport Agreement Signed With Romania

EA060439 Nairobi KNA in English 1300 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Nairobi, March 05 — Air services between Kenya and Romania will start soon following the signing of a bilateral agreement between the two countries today. Under the agreement, Kenya Airways and Romania's Tarom Air Services will have a weekly frequency from Nairobi and Bucharest and vice-versa through an intermediary point. At the moment, the agreement ties both countries to an operation of 153 seats. The Romanian Assistant Minister for transport and communications [title as received], Mr Dumitru Nicolae Puiu, who signed on behalf of his government said that his country was eager to establish contacts with African countries and Kenya in particular.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Holds Talks With Nigeria's Gambari

EA061835 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Today OAU Chairman Mwalimu Nyerere received a special message from the Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The message was delivered by Dr Ibrahim Gambari, Nigerian minister of external affairs. After delivering the message to President Nyerere, the Nigerian foreign minister held discussions with him on various African issues, particularly the crisis in Chad, the OAU, and the recent developments in southern Africa. Mr Gambari arrived in Dar es Salaam today.

Meanwhile, President Nyerere today held talks with the mediator for portioning out the assets and liabilities of the defunct East African Community [EAC], Dr Victor Umbricht. An agreement officially dissolving the EAC was signed in Arusha in May last year.

Briefs

Border Meeting With Rwanda — Dar es Salaam — A meeting of the special committee responsible for security matters on the Rwanda-Tanzania border opened in Dar es Salaam today. The committee, set up by the Rwanda-Tanzania Joint Commission on Good Neighborliness, first met in Kigali in January 1984. The committee presents its proposals to the joint commission which studies and directs their implementation. Proposals made at the first meeting in Kigali and whose implementation the commission directed, dealt with immigration, racketeering, poaching, and refugees along the common border. The committee is now studying ways and means of implementing the proposals. [Text] [*Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 6 Mar 85 EA*]

Cultural Accord With PRC — Dar es Salaam — Tanzania and China today signed the 1985/86 program of cultural cooperation agreement. The program was signed by the deputy principal secretary in the prime ministers office, Ndugu Wilfred Mwabulambo, and the Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania, Ndugu He Gongkai. The agreement between the two countries covers culture and arts, education and science, [words indistinct] information, broadcasting, and (?filming). [Text] [*Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Mar 85 EA*]

UGANDA

Obote Meets New Sudanese Envoy, Restates Support

EA051112 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] President Milton Obote has assured the new Sudanese ambassador, Mr 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman Numayri, that Uganda wants good neighborliness with the Sudan, and that the Uganda Government will never support Sudanese dissidents. The president made this assurance yesterday when Ambassador Numayri presented his credentials at Kampala international conference center. Dr Obote told the envoy that the government has stabilized the northeastern parts of Uganda and would be very happy to relieve the Sudan of Ugandan refugees there. The president expressed gratitude to the Sudanese Government and the peoples for their great understanding and assistance to peace-loving Ugandans during the dark years of the 1970's. The ceremony was attended by ministers and senior government officers.

CHAD

Ndjamena on Libyan 'Disinformation' Broadcasts

AB061305 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Biltine captured by the enemies? Which enemy? Abeche deserted by the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT]? Since when? These are the latest lies being propagated by Radio Sebha [Radio Bardai] and which one foreign radio reproduced today. We are going to present the whole truth to you with Facho Omadiranga Kanassawa.

[Begin Kanassawa recording] We will not stop repeating that Libya is increasing its campaign against Chad. Finding it impossible to grab Chad by force, Tripoli has been for some time now using a well-known formula — the systematic poisoning of the mind with lies.

The latest in the series of disinformation broadcast in Sebha has been reproduced by a foreign radio. According to Radio Sebha, the city of Biltine in eastern Chad has been deserted and Abeche, the chief town of Ouaddai, has been evacuated by government forces. This piece of information should in fact make everybody laugh.

But despite its funny aspect, these lies are aimed at sowing confusion in the minds of Chadians who are still waiting to respond (?positively) to the reconciliation policy of the Third Republic government, a policy which has yielded a certain amount of success in spite of the delay tactics of the preachers of terrorism and destabilization.

To come back to the Biltine area, (Houari Kamasso), secretary of state for national education, has just returned from a tour of the area. He undertook an extensive tour of the Prefecture of Biltine to acquaint himself with the realities and difficulties facing the inhabitants of that region in the field of education. He will soon submit to the government a report on his tour. How then can one affirm that this city has fallen into the hands of Tripoli's mercenaries, for that is exactly what they are?

They want people to believe that they still represent a force to reckon with when it comes to the political future of Chad. It is also aimed at discouraging those Chadians who are currently being held by force by the Libyans from joining the ranks of brotherhood. [end recording]

GABON

French Adviser Penne Holds Talks With Bongo

AB071205 Paris AFP in French 1107 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Libreville, 7 Mar (AFP) — Guy Penne, adviser to French President Francois Mitterrand on African and Malagasy affairs, delivered a message of "friendship" from the French president to the head of state, Omar Bongo, in Libreville on Wednesday. The contents of the message were not disclosed.

President Bongo and Mr Penne held talks during which they discussed various African issues, notably the Chadian issue as well as French-Gabonese cooperation, it was learned from an informed source, who provided no further details. The French adviser, who arrived in Libreville on Tuesday, is expected to leave the Gabonese capital Friday.

ZAIRE

New Ambassador to United Nations Appointed

AB061058 Dakar PANA/AZAP in French 1120 GMT 23 Feb 85

[Text] Zairian head of state Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko has just appointed Bagbeni Adeito Nzengeya as the new Zairian ambassador to the United Nations in New York, it was officially announced in Kinshasa on Friday. Mr Bagbeni Adeito, a career diplomat, entered the Zairian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in February 1967 after what is described as "brilliant" advanced studies in France. After receiving a bachelor's degree in diplomatic, political, and administrative sciences, Mr Bagbeni has successively been Zairian ambassador to the Netherlands (1971-72), to Ethiopia — OAU and the UN Economic Commission for Africa — (1972-75), to Geneva for the United Nations and its specialized organizations (1980-83), and to India, Singapore, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka (1983-85). Mr Bagbeni has also been director general at the Zairian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, 1975-76, and chairman of the Permanent Commission of Public Administration from 1975 to 1980. Mr Bagbeni replaces Inonga Lokonga Lome, who was recalled to Zaire at the beginning of January 1985, where he is a member of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement of the Revolution (MPR, Zairian national party).

BENIN

DPRK Delegation Signs Agreements, Departs

AB061318 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] The visit of the Korean delegation headed by Kim Sang-chun to our country, the People's Republic of Benin, ended today with the signing of two draft protocols. The first draft protocol concerns the preliminary project of the construction of a central school for the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party while the other concerns the construction of the Ouidah cultural center. Other projects were examined together which led to their reevaluation.

This took place this afternoon at the conference hall of the Ministry of Equipment and Transport in Cotonou. During the ceremony, the two delegations signed the documents. Our country was represented by Comrade (Adamou Wanza), representing the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who was unable to attend, while the DPRK was represented by Comrade Kim Sang-chun, the deputy prermanent undersecretary at the DPRK Ministry of Economic Affairs [title as heard].

In a brief statement, Comrade (Adamou Wanza), the permanent undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, thanked our DPRK guests for the great understanding they showed during their discussions. He expressed satisfaction with the outcome of their discussions, which resulted in the official signing of the agreements.

For his part, the leader of the DPRK delegation thanked the central authorities of the Beninese state and party for their warm welcome and their hospitality shown to the DPRK delegation to enable it to complete its work with success. He also expressed, on behalf of his country, his readiness to work hard so that the projects identified within the framework of the agreements just signed can be realized as soon as possible. He expressed satisfaction with the excellent relations existing between the two countries, parties, and peoples forming a solid base for ever-increasing cooperation between the two countries. Undoubtedly, the quality of this cooperation is due to the deep friendship existing between our great comrades-in-arms, Comrade President Kerekou and Comrade Kim Il-sung, the great leader.

It is worth recalling that the agreements signed this afternoon concern the construction of the party's central school and the transfer of the site of the (?Adjahome) cultural center to Ouidah. The two sides inspected an irrigation project in the Atakora region and dicussed the completion of the Come hospital. The Korean deleation left for home this afternoon.

GUINEA

New Envoys to Sudan, Bulgaria, Liberia

AB061045 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT

[Excerpt] Three Guinean ambassadors have presented their credentials to the leaders of the countries of accreditation. They are El-Hadj Mamadou Saliou Sylla, Guinean ambassador to Sudan; Mamadou Diallo, ambassador to Bulgaria; and Rene Gomez, ambassador to Liberia.

NIGERIA

Idiagbon Receives Malaysian High Commissioner

AB061016 Lagos NAN in English 1002 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Lagos, March 5 (NAN) — The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Maj Gen Tunde Idiagbon, said today in Lagos that he welcomed Malaysia's desire to have direct trade links with Nigeria.

He told the Malaysian high commissioner to Nigeria, Mr G.K.A. Kuramaseri, who visited him at Dodan Barracks, that direct trade links would eliminate the middleman role of the multinational companies and satisfy the objective of South-South cooperation.

Maj Gen Idiagbon said that Nigeria wanted to stop the practice whereby Malaysian products meant for Nigerian markets had to pass through Singapore-based brokers, who in turn passed to Nigeria at exorbitant prices. "Direct trade will ensure lower prices to buyers and reduce dependence of the primary producers on the multinationals middlemen," he declared.

Earlier, Mr Kuramaseri said that Malaysia was interested in establishing permanent interest in Nigeria through joint-venture agricultural projects and agro-allied industries. He expressed regret that Malaysian products had to get to Nigeria through middlemen, adding that Malaysia was in a position to supply Nigeria with vegetable oil at "reasonable price."

Paper Urges Tough Approach to 'Troublesome Neighbors'

AB071137 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY TIMES* takes a look at the aggressive attitude of some of Nigeria's neighboring countries. The paper recalls a series of border skirmishes and maltreatment of Nigerians by the countries. The *TIMES* commends the Federal Government for adopting a calm posture in the face of such provocative actions. It, however, warns that unless Nigeria adopts a hardline approach in dealing with her troublesome neighbors, the administration will lose its prestige.

Paper Accuses UK of 'Dictatorial Role' in Commonwealth

AB071135 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NATIONAL CONCORD* questions the rationale behind Nigeria's continued membership of the Commonwealth. The paper is very dissatisfied with the situation whereby Britain plays a dictatorial role in the international body. The *CONCORD* says that while African countries are presenting a common front to the problems of racism and racist South Africa, Britain is deliberately frustrating such efforts. The paper equally condemns Britain's special trade concession to some members of the Commonwealth.

SENEGAL

Diouf Returns From Egypt, Comments on Relations

AB061142 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Private discussions between Abdou Diouf and Husni Mubarak, a discussion with the Grand Iman of the Al-Azar Mosque, a joint commission which is to meet alternately in Dakar and Cairo, and an honorary doctorate degree of Cairo University — these are some of the telltale signs which demonstrate the success of the 3-day official visit that the President and Mrs Abdou Diouf have just made to Egypt. The presidential couple returned to Dakar late yesterday afternoon following a very useful visit. Let us listen to President Abdou Diouf:

[Begin recording] This visit was very useful because it made it possible to really strengthen the relations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Senegal. I think that for a long time Egypt and Senegal have been considered naturally friendly countries. For a long time, we praised Egypt's eminent role in the history of the world and of Africa, but we must admit that for some years now the relations between the two countries have not developed as they should. This is why this visit was necessary. I do not mean that we are going to begin from scratch, because there have been some actions. What I mean is that since I became head of state, I have never had the opportunity to discuss all our problems of bilateral cooperation with an Egyptian head of state — with President Husni Mubarak, to be more precise — and to make the necessary decisions in all fields in order to promote this many-sided cooperation and give it the dynamism befitting the friendship between Egypt and Senegal, as well as our great similarity of views in political matters. [end recording]

Briefs

New Envoy to Burundi — His Excellency Papa Abdou Cisse, Senegal's ambassador to Zaire, has also been appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Senegal to the Republic of Burundi with residence in Kinshasa. [Summary] [*Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Feb 85 AB*]

TOGO

Cape Verde's Pereira Continues Talks With Eyadema

AB061228 Paris AFP in French 0951 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Lome, 6 Mar (AFP) — The second day of Cape Verde President Aristides Pereira's official visit to Togo was marked on Tuesday morning by a second round of private discussions between Togolese head of state General Gnassingbe Eyadema and his guest. The discussions concerned the bilateral relations between both countries and subregional cooperation in the framework of the ECOWAS, to which the two countries belong.

Following the discussions, Presidents Pereira and Eyadema visited the autonomous port of Lome and the installations of the Togolese Phosphate Mining Company, situated some 30 km from Lome. The day ended with a state dinner given in honor of the Cape Verde president at the headquarters of the Rally of the Togolese People.

ANGOLA

KUP: UNITA Captures Mona-Quimbundo 27 Feb

MB070746 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 7 Mar (KUP) — What is happening in the diamond-rich town of Saurimo? Since the occupation of Mona-Quimbundo by UNITA forces, fear has overtaken diamond-rich Saurimo. Mona-Quimbundo was taken by UNITA forces on 27 February 1985 and is barely 40 km from Saurimo.

KUP Cites UNITA Attack on Bie Railway Station

MB070740 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 7 Mar (KUP) — UNITA has attacked the Bie railway station, inflicting enormous human and material damage. In another development, a People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola force was wiped out southeast of Nharea. A military truck detonated a land mine on the General Machado-Nova Sintra road, causing the death of 31 FAPLA personnel and leading to the capture of 44 weapons and many bombs and ammunition. These operations took place on 19, 22, and 27 February 1985.

BOTSWANA

Official Denies RSA Requested Expulsion of ANC

MB061709 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1610 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] External affairs secretary, Mr Garebamono, says the government is not aware of any request made by South Africa to Botswana to expel anybody from that country. Mr Garebamono said this in response to today's South Africa *RAND DAILY MAIL* article which says Pretoria has asked Botswana to expel a number of alleged members of the ANC of South Africa. He told BOPA [BOTSWANA PRESS AGENCY] in a telephone interview today that it is not true that the Botswana Government has been approached by South Africa in connection with the expulsion of any individuals from the country. Mr Garebamono stressed that no request had been made to the government at any meeting whatsoever or by any means.

The *RAND DAILY MAIL* story also alleged that the president, Dr Quett Masire, is understood to have personally informed the ANC leader, Mr Oliver Tambo, of the demands during their meeting in Gaborone recently.

The paper further alleges that the South African request was apparently made by the country's foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, when he met Botswana's foreign minister, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, about a week ago. However, Mr Garebamono maintains that no request was made to Botswana during the Pretoria meeting.

MOZAMBIQUE

Joint Communique With Mongolia Issued

MB061517 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 Feb 85 p 5

[Joint communique on the visit of Mongolian People's Republic party-government delegation to Mozambique issued in Maputo on 18 February]

[Text] At the invitation of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, a party-government delegation led by Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo, candidate member of the Politburo of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR], made an official friendship visit to the People's Republic of Mozambique from 14 to 18 February 1985.

Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo was received by Comrade Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, to whom he delivered a message from Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural.

During his visit, Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo held talks with Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano, member of the Political Bureau and secretary for external relations of the Frelimo Party Central Committee, and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Mozambique. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship, brotherhood, and mutual understanding.

Both sides briefed each other on development of the building of the socialist society in their respective countries, and exchanged a number of views about bilateral relations and the international situation, having noticed common viewpoints about the issues that were raised.

The two delegations stressed that the relations of friendship, brotherhood, militant solidarity, and close cooperation between the parties and governments of the two nations have continuously been developing based on the principles of Marxism, Leninism, and proletarian internationalism.

The two sides stressed the leading role of the Frelimo Party and the MPRP in strengthening the existing links between both peoples and countries, identified by their common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, and racial discrimination in all their forms and manifestations.

They expressed the common decision of their respective parties to continue to strengthen the development of those relations in the interest of both peoples and governments, in favor of peace, progress, and socialism.

In this context, Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo informed Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano of the successes attained by the MPRP and the Mongolian people and government in building socialism in the MPR. He stressed that the successes that have

been attained result from the wise leadership of the party and the unselfish efforts of the Mongolian people.

The Mozambican side highly appreciated the historic experience of the noncapitalist development of the Mongolian people under the leadership of the MPRP, and reiterated the consistent support of the Mozambican people and government in the Mongolian people's struggle to build socialism in the country.

In addition, Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano informed the Mongolian delegation of the successes of the Mozambican people. He stressed that these successes have been attained in the fulfillment of the resolutions of the fourth Frelimo Party congress, which are aimed at strengthening national independence, security, and defense of the fatherland, as well as the strengthening of the building of socialism in Mozambique.

The Mongolian side highly appreciated the struggle of the Mozambican people, which are implementing the fourth congress decisions under the wise leadership of Comrade President Samora Moises Machel by involving themselves with determination in the defense of the fatherland and in building socialism. He reiterated his total support for the peace initiatives carried out by the people and Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, led by their vanguard party, the Frelimo Party.

In assessing the level of bilateral cooperation, the two delegations noted with satisfaction that the relations of fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and mutual cooperation between their parties and governments have continuously been developing to the benefit of both peoples. The two sides also noted that the talks at party and government level are further strengthening their relations.

Both sides stressed the firm efforts of their parties and governments in the multilateral strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation with all socialist countries and progressive nations, the main stronghold of the forces of peace and progress.

In this context, they stressed the importance of further strengthening the links of friendship and unity of action among the peoples of the socialist and progressive countries, and the revolutionary and democratic forces throughout the world in support of the movement of national liberation.

In assessing the situation in Africa, both delegations denounced the economic and military cooperation between the imperialist forces and the racist Pretoria regime. They stressed that it is this cooperation which enables the continuation of apartheid and repression in South Africa, the continuation of the colonization of Namibia, and the aggressions against the frontline countries and Lesotho, as well as the promotion of armed bandits in the region, aimed against Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe in particular.

The Mozambican side and the Mongolian side decisively spoke out against the so-called constitutional reforms brought about by the racist regime of South Africa. They also expressed their militant solidarity with the heroic struggle of the South African people, led by the ANC, against racism and apartheid, and for the establishment of a free, democratic, and just society.

Both delegations agreed that the true solution for the Namibian problem rests on the strict application of UN Resolution No 435, which has the support of the international community, and the observation of the resolutions of the Nonaligned Movement and the OAU. Accordingly, they expressed their firm solidarity with SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

The two delegations firmly condemned the continued presence of the racist troops in southern Angola and demanded their withdrawal, as well as the end to the aid they give to the UNITA counterrevolutionary gangs. They reaffirmed their militant solidarity with the MPLA and the Angolan people.

In examining the situation in Western Sahara, both delegations expressed their support for the OAU resolutions and were pleased with the fact that the SDAR has retaken its seat as full member of the OAU since the 20th summit.

Both sides stressed the importance and usefulness of the OAU and the irreplaceable role it plays in defending the most legitimate interests of the African peoples and advancing national sovereignty.

The two sides also reaffirmed their trust in the organization, which has been strengthened and is even more united since the 20th summit, despite imperialist and reactionary attempts to divide the organization and oppose the struggle for the emancipation of the African peoples and countries.

In examining the situation in Asia, both delegations favored the establishment of peace and cooperation among the countries in the region. They stressed that a resolution of the Southeast Asian problem will only be possible through political dialogue among the parties that are directly interested, without foreign intervention.

The two delegations firmly supported the efforts of the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the defense of the gains of the April revolution.

Regarding the situation in the Middle East, both sides stressed that the aggressive and expansionist policy of Israel is the main cause of the aggravation of the situation in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon. In this context, the two sides reaffirmed that no resolution of the crisis will be achieved unless Israel withdraws its forces from the Arab territories it has been occupying since 1967, and recognizes the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to create their own independent nation. They discussed the holding of an international conference of all interested parties, including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Both leaders expressed their concern regarding the extremely dangerous aggravation of the situation in the world as a result of the aggressive policy of the imperialist forces.

The two sides believe that the maintenance of peace, the end of the arms race, and the adoption of concrete measures on disarmament, first in the nuclear field, is the priority task for our time.

Both sides pointed out the dangers that the deployment of medium-range missiles on the territory of several Western European countries represents for world peace, and discussed the adoption of immediate measures to limit nuclear weapons and avoid the militarization of space.

In this context, the two sides considered as positive the January 1985 meeting between the USSR and the United States. They expressed the hope that this dialogue will serve as a basis for future negotiations which will permit disarmament.

In examining the situation in Latin America, both sides noted their concern over the seriousness of the situation in Central America and the Caribbean, due to interference and imperialist threats against Nicaragua and Cuba and the attempt to stop the struggle of the peoples of El Salvador and Chile.

Both sides reiterated their support for and militant solidarity with the peoples of that region in their struggle for freedom, democracy, independence, and the defense of their revolutionary gains.

The two delegations hailed the excellent results of the visit by Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo and the atmosphere of understanding, brotherhood, and friendship that marked the holding of the talks, which contributed to a greater strengthening of the bilateral relations that unite the peoples, parties, and Governments of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the MPR.

Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo expressed his thanks for the warm and fraternal welcome and generous hospitality given to him and his delegation during their stay in the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The Mongolian delegation invited a party-government delegation of the People's Republic of Mozambique to visit the MPR. Comrade Sonomyn Lubsangombo reiterated the invitation to Comrade Joaquim Alberto Chissano to visit the MPR when he finds it most opportune.

The invitations were accepted with pleasure and the dates will be subsequently fixed through diplomatic channels.

Maputo, 18 February 1985.

Maputo Cites Malan Statement on Nkomati Accord

MB071125 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] South Africa's Defense Minister Magnus Malan has alleged that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are exerting pressure on Mozambique not to abide by the terms of the Nkomati Accord.

General Malan, who was speaking at the opening of the Kroonstad Agricultural show, did not adduce any evidence to support his allegation. He claims South Africa was keeping to the spirit and contents of the accord and would like to see cooperation continuing for the benefit of all.

Last month, South Africa's Foreign Minister Roelof Botha acknowledged that the accord was being violated from South Africa territory, and foreign ministers of the EEC recently sent a declaration to the South Africans urging that the accord be respected.

OAU Liberation Committee Official Arrives for Talks

MB070824 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Hashim Mbita, the executive secretary of the OAU Liberation Committee, arrived in Maputo yesterday as part of regular consultations he has been holding in a number of African countries. Colonel Mbita arrived from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he took part in the 41st OAU ministerial council session in preparation for the upcoming economic summit of the organization.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Responds to U.S. Senator's Letter on UDF

MB070626 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has replied sharply to a letter from Senator Edward Kennedy and other senior American legislators calling for the release of treason trialists being held in South Africa. In their letter, the senators expressed their concern over the recent arrest of members of the United Democratic Front [UDF] on charges of treason, and called for their immediate release.

The state president said in his reply, delivered to Senator Kennedy yesterday, that he was concerned that politicians such as Senator Kennedy, who seeked to introduce legislation in the American Congress on matters which directly affected South Africa, should be so fundamentally uninformed and misinformed about this country. Mr Botha said that, among other things, the senators did not understand the South African legal process, and that if this were the level at which American legislation concerning other countries was motivated and formulated, it became particularly difficult to understand how the American global interests and those of the free world were to be served and protected.

In his reply to Senator Kennedy, the state president also explained the latest political initiatives of the government, and said it seemed to South Africa that without objective and accurate assessments of the realities underlying the many complex situations in the world, the American capacity to protect its interests and those of the free world would be jeopardized severely.

Mr Botha said South Africa did not expect foreigners to be fully conversant with events in this country, but took strong exception when outsiders singled out South Africa for their own selective brand of moral indignation and presumed to lecture this country on elementary procedures of law and government.

Further on Reply

MB070649 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The government did not order the recent arrests of senior United Democratic Front [UDF] officials on high treason charges. That is according to a letter sent to 37 U.S. Congress members by the South African president, P.W. Botha. Zai Kuchalia reports:

[Begin recording] Botha has told the 37 Congress members that he did not order the arrests and only became aware of the police action after it had been taken. He says the government subscribes to the rule of law, but was not prepared to sacrifice people committed to its care to what he called terrorist action. Botha's letter to among others Senator Kennedy was in response to a protest against the arrests made last month.

The members of Congress said the action would impede the movement toward peaceful change in South Africa. In his reply, Botha has accused them of being fundamentally uninformed and misinformed about South Africa.

He has denied that the arrest of UDF leaders was politically inspired, and said they were not charged because they were UDF members, but that the police investigation had started before the formation of the UDF. Botha said the individuals were also not the leadership of the UDF, and added that it was coincidental that they filled the leadership roles in the organization. [end recording]

RAND DAILY MAIL on 'Crisis' Facing President

MB070848 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 7 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[By political editor Patrick Laurence]

[Text] As discontent over pay cutbacks among public servants threatened to escalate into open rebellion, President P.W. Botha yesterday faced perhaps the gravest crisis since he assumed leadership of South Africa more than six years ago.

Resentment among the nearly 660,475 civil servants, traditional stalwarts of the governing National Party [NP], was but one element in the multi-tier crisis confronting Mr Botha.

Apart from the threat that many of these erstwhile NP loyalists might defect to the ultra-rightist Conservative Party [CP], Mr Botha has to contend with continuing rebellion and unrest in the black townships and the growing campaign for disinvestment in the United States.

His task in dealing with the crisis is acutely difficult.

If he takes reformist action to appease black grievances, he risks further advances by Dr Andries Treurnichts's CP, but if he embarks on a course of tough repressive action, he may fuel the disnvestment campaign — which, by adversely affecting the economy, can exacerbate the crises facing him at home.

Mr Botha, who turned 69 in January, showed signs of the strain at the news conference at which he announced the bonus cuts on Tuesday. He was subdued, looked tired and gaunt and appeared to have lost a lot of weight.

As recent protest meetings in Pretoria by the CP and its ally, the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP], have shown, the ultra-Rightists have been quick to exploit the economic situation.

The critical question is whether the CP can win over enough disgruntled civil servants — who, together with employees of the parastatals, account for more than 60 percent of the country's economically active whites — to mount a serious challenge to Mr Botha's administration.

If it can, then it can extend its power base from the Transvaal's rural hinterland into the major cities and thereby put literally dozens of NP seats in jeopardy.

Political analysts agreed yesterday that Mr Botha was confronted with a grave situation and that his administration seemed to be confused as it moved first in one direction and then in another.

They cited contradictions betweeen the recent tough statement about not tolerating "disorderly settlement" at Crossroads and then a few days later the concilliatory statement agreeing to "redevelopment" of Crossroads after rioting there had claimed 18 lives.

But, the analysts cautioned, the threat to Mr Botha from the ultra-Right should not be exaggerated.

The NP holds 128 of the House of Asembly's 178 seats, against a mere 18 for the CP, 27 for the Progressive Federal Party and 5 for the tiny New Republic Party.

Further, the most recent *RAPPORT* opinion poll for the period July to October last year showed that the NP had the support of more than 50 percent of the white voters, against barely over 10 percent for the CP and less than 3 percent for the HNP.

By introducing the new constitution, Mr Botha, however, bought the NP an extra three years.

But for a controversial clause in the new constitution, he would have had to hold a general election next year. Now he need not do so until 1989 — by which time the economy may have improved enough for him, or his successor, to buy back the loyalty of disguntled civil servants.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Comments on Tinkundla, Dissidents

MB061600 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati 1700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Speech by Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi to the Lobamba Inkundla on 4 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] I want to reiterate the words of the governor of the Tinkundla [electoral college constituencies] that the monarchy gave us areas to oversee and gave us subjects to administer. The well-being of the people in your area is your responsibility, their health is your concern so that the king may find them in good health when they are needed. None of them must be lost. My countrymen, I am merely supporting what the indvuna of Tinkundla has already said.

What I am now going to say, my countrymen, is a scandal. There are people who visit families under your administration, people who are not reported to you, as the head. They are aliens and do not belong. The head of the family has welcomed them into his home. When you happen to visit the family you find the family extended to 10 when you know only the man, his wife, and children. You find big men, five of them, staying with the family. You then wonder where they come from.

Maybe you are called because there has been a fight in the home, and you are called to, say, Maseko's homestead to arbitrate. When did they arrive, you ask, and you are told they have been there for 5 years! Why were they not reported? Oh, I thought they were just in transit, my lord, they work in Manzini, Maseko replies. What right did you have to lodge them this long without reporting them?

This is the work of the heads of the areas, to see that all people in your areas are announced, whether they be in transit, or are gainfully employed. This is the safeguard, so that when a problem arises, it can be safely said that the sojourner was reported, and had, perhaps, merely asked to stay overnight.

The governor of the Tinkundla has told me to admonish you to register all your alien guests. If you are haboring any such elements, report them today and bring them along today to be registered in the guest book of the headman, and have the details of their stay put on paper. They are not recorded in the community register but in a separate guest book, whether they are potential suitors or whatever, because there are some who are passing ships in the night. Then when problems arise we all know what to do. Therefore, my countrymen, you should go and seek out strangers in your administrative areas and have them registered or recorded today, know where they come from and where they are staying. There are strange persons in the country these days, people whose origins are unknown. When problems arise and they are looked for, they are found to have fled and cannot be found.

Now I shall turn my attention to my role as prime minister of Swaziland. There are three things I wish to point out in this regard.

First and foremost is that the Swazi nation in its entirety in Swaziland, under the leadership and guidance of the monarch, will give due respect to its monarch and the princes and princesses. The nation in its entirety, parents and children alike, will pay due respect to the monarch and the princes and princesses of the realm. This is my first point my fellow countrymen. Some of you may be taken aback at this directive. The reason I am reminding you of it is that due to changing socioeconomic developments in the country, we now have a generation of urban Swazis who have no inkling of traditional Swazi values which exist in the rural areas. Our duty as parents and elders is to guide such youngsters and move them along the correct path, explaining all the nuances of Swazi traditional values, which give primacy to the monarchy. We have to respect and preserve our monarchy! Preservation of the monarchy is the duty of all Swazis. This is the fundamental principle which I wish to make amply clear.

It is my duty as prime minister to ensure that the nation is still persuing the traditional values in its daily tasks with regard to respect and other social norms. It had come to my notice that the nation was now beginning to show signs of decadence. So my fellow countrymen, I am very thankful that you are present at this Lobamba Inkhundla [constituency] meeting to hear what I have to say on these three subjects.

To repeat, you Swazis will be held responsible for the demise of the monarchy of Swaziland if you fail to live up to the tradition of respect as taught by our late beloved monarch. The late monarch left you in a state of respectfulness. Even today, our new monarch, the queen regent, deserves the same respect, support, and encouragement as was given in times gone by. You had better not change your stance now! Stand firm and united as before, so that with the help of the Almighty, Makhosetive will complete his studies and also come of age to assume the mantle of Swazi kingship. All of us are praying for this. The whole nation is doing so without exception. We are praying that the nation will survive this interregnum with our support for the queen regent in a manner similar to which bees give to their queen bee!

Why am I paying such particular attention to this aspect of Swazi culture? Well, here are the reasons. There continues to be some rumblings and murmurings in the country. A person may well ask as to what kind of animal this rumbling and murmuring belongs to. Some smart alecks say the Swazi nation has lost its bearings. The nation is just fumbling along. Why is this so? Well, their king died. The smart alecks are quite concerned and nervous about this apparent loss of direction. Tradition demands that we who are in authority should remind others that the direction that is being pursued is still the same as that followed during his late majesty's time. There are no changes; we are just moving along without changing bearings. It will be so tomorrow and even on Monday, or for that matter even on a Wednesday. Nothing has changed. If there is any change, we shall sit down and question each other about changes, examine all the facets of that particular change. Why would we do that? Because we are Swazis, and have not changed into anything else.

So my countrymen, I have decided that I should reiterate this theme. We need to render this theme in the form of a song.

I am very lucky that I am singing this theme right at the seat of the monarchy, Lobamba. Lobamba is the fountainhead of Swazi traditional values. All Swazis know that Lobamba represents finality in Swazi matters. No matter what dissension might exist within the country, nothing will ever invade Lobamba. The cowards will run into the forests to hide, but those who stay with the monarch at Lobamba will remain steadfast. Come rain or sunshine, from whatever direction, the Lobamba fortress shall not be shaken! Those plotters in the realm will end up in a state of confusion in the forests, and will be speaking in confused tongues. However, here at Lobamba we do not accept strange behavior. This is the residence of the monarchy. I had better stress this again. All of us trust and know that the Lobamba Inkhundla represents the fountainhead of Swazi culture. This Inkhundla will serve primarily as an example of what other Tinkhundla should be doing. Your center will reflect the true aspects of respect towards the monarchy and the princes and princesses of the realm. Swazi unity will be demonstrated right here at Lobamba! Not to belabor the point, let me just express my satisfaction that here at Lobamba we still have unity and unanimity. There is no divergence of opinions and the winds of dissidency have not struck this area. Rumblings and political dissatisfaction belong to the wilderness.

Just to let you in on what is going on in other areas, I shall mention a few astounding occurrences. In some areas of Swaziland, unfounded rumors abound with no basis whatsoever. People keep on rumbling and murmuring, stating that they are no longer sure as to where the reins of power reside in Swaziland. Where is the monarch? We wish to stress to all those Tikundla that are now perturbed and showing dissatisfaction that nothing has gone amiss, dear people. Your monarchy is alive and well! It really cares for you, so please disregard any information to the contrary. Please be steadfast, keep the faith in your monarchy, and help sustain it. God has put us here to pray for our monarchy, and for the nation's good the monarch will pray with the nation.

Pamphlets are being scattered countrywide these days. These pamphlets urge schoolchildren to boycott classes in protest against the current government. They also urge the teachers to do likewise. Civil servants and those in the commercial sector are duly invited to join the protests in a show of solidarity with the cause of the pamphleteers. Soldiers and police are similarly invited to go on strike against the present government. These are the contents of those pamphlets. Wow! The author of the pamphlets does not identify himself or herself! It appears it is a council, whose name is rather nondescript. The author of the pamphlets demands the release of political detainees from jail. The detainees are identified by their full names: Titus Msibi, Mangomeni Ndzimandze, Edgar Hillary, Abdenigo Dlamini, Sisahyi Nxumalo.

This call is contained in pamphlets scattered on the streets! This is the beginning of a process of decay in respect, when such things do occur.

If this pamphleteer had any grievances, he should have come to the inkundla to have his case heard and examined. Why does the pamphleteer take a matter of grave national concern and turn it into a cursory matter for street discussions? The grievance, if valid, belongs to the inkundla where it can be fully discussed. Why did the author opt for this method? It is known that the government is acting in the interests of the Swazi nation. If there is a complaint, it is first reported to the chief, who in turn passes it on to the inkundla, where it is given a full hearing and examination. This is the venue where criticism of the government is allowed without fear of reprisals.

Why then does this complaint of the pamphleteer appear to be provoking people into dissidency? This complaint is definitely provocative, since it does not reveal the author's identity. All that is being said is a lot of muttered hogwash. Why are you murmuring and muttering?

We expect each and every individual with a complaint to come forward and present his dissatisfaction to the inkundla of his area, in a manner and with the respect befitting such a matter, whatever it is. We do not just litter our streets with pamphlets full of complaints. Who is going to respond to those grievances that now comprise the garbage on our streets? The Swazi way just does not work that way! Those who litter our streets are dissidents! I just wanted to relate to you what was going on in the Kingdom, my fellow countrymen!

Our defense force wanted to know the identities of these protesters. It wanted to know if these people belonged to the chiefs. Could they really fall under the jurisdiction of chiefs? We chiefs now have the job of seeking them out. Even I shall be busy at Enkhaba, my area, trying to ferret out these scoundrels. I surely hope that the culprits will be caught. These pamphlets are not manna from heaven. They are authored by human beings. Our job as chiefs is to bring them out into the open, and bring their grievances to the monarch, noting that they have erred in procedure by protesting behind the scenes.

The government and the monarch are ever open to critcism and direction, but please note the proper protocol to be followed. The matter first starts with the chief, and then on to the inkundla, and if there is no satisfaction at that level, it will progress right up to the top at the seat of power. The governor of the tinkundla has already indicated the method to be followed in handling complaints. Now, we want to know if these clandestine protestors are Swazis or foreigners. These pamphleteers unfortunately have not identified themselves. If they have identified themselves, we would perhaps have invited them to this venue for discussions.

There is no need for clandestine protest in this country! Those who work in the darkness belong to the devil. Those belonging to the Lord work in the light, openly. They stand for the truth and have no clandestine leanings.

This account, my countrymen, shows what problems exist within the realm. It is we, the Swazi people, who will put an end to such occurrences. We should, in a united fashion, examine whether such actions will give us better life and government. Should there be deficiencies in our system, those deficiencies deserve to be rectified. We should not just sit down and say: It is the work of the police to apprehend criminals! This country belongs to all of us as a nation, and it is our duty to assist the police in their work against clandestine dissidents.

Open protest is fine, but remember, clandestine protest is a criminal offense. Thus, to you my fellow chiefs and the nation at large, I am simply stating what has become headache to this Swazi nation. In years past we noted the clandestine dissidence, and we hoped that the matter was dead after the monarch had pardoned all the political protesters.

Now, today, another batch of dissidents is rearing its head. Now, we simply do not understand what these people actually want. The monarch has been very kind and forgiving in light of the seriousness of the crimes. Isn't the monarch's mercy being abused and taken for granted? What disease has struck you Swazi people? One clown recalls a historical parallel of the Ndwandwe's, the Mawewe succession struggle in the 19th century. He warned the Swazi nation to be on guard for the divisive forces among itself. My countrymen, I think these people are witches. They are the ones who are fanning clandestine protest.

Thus, my dear fellow princes, I am simply stating what is occurring in your beloved country, so you can prepare your answers to the questions the monarch will soon be asking you in your separate administrative centers. Some of you have simply brushed aside all the decadency that is taking place in your areas. You never reported to the monarch that you were experiencing problems! So now, be prepared to give an adequate account of the happenings in your areas.

This is the real task of chiefs and their followers. Should we be delinquent in the performance of our duties, our affairs will be hijacked by foreigners. One individual has just observed that the Swazi nation is suffering from the results of its own generosity, granting refugee status to foreign people fleeing political persecution in their own countries. In Swaziland there are two kinds of refugees: South African refugees and Mozambican refugees, the latter being driven into Swaziland by hunger.

With such mixture anything is possible. Political turmoil is likely to be spread by such people. We have already noticed actions contrary to the Swazi way of life. Some refugees have simply flouted our laws regarding security. They openly paraded with arms of war in broad daylight. When questioned about this strange behavior in Swaziland, they responded with violence — a real shootout! It is such events that cause concern. It is your task to pay particular attention to such strange characters amongst your midst. My fellow princes, I am simply stressing a point.

ZAMBIA

Legislators Urge State of Emergency To Halt Crime

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[Text] Members of parliament have urged government to declare a 2-month state of emergency and declare a dusk-to-dawn curfew in order to round up all illegal foreigners and people found in possession of illegal arms.

Luangeni member of parliament (William Koyamba) also suggested that during such a period all borders of the country were to be sealed off, in order to ensure proper execution of the exercise.

Member of parliament for (Chidzera) (Mulongwe Muzuria) urged the government to call a national convention on security, to allow a number of experts from all over the country to share ideas on how best to deal with crime in the country.

The members of parliament have also urged the government to introduce firing squads to halt the worsening crime in the country.

Making the call in parliament today, member of Parliament for Nalikwanda (Mufaya Mumbuna) warned that unless the government introduces firing squads and improved upon the training of police officers, which he said was currently shoddy, (?hell) would ruin the country.

He was seconding a motion made by member of parliament for Wusakile (Denis Katilungu).

The minister of home affairs, Mr Frederick Chomba, told parliament that only one Zambian has been hanged for armed robbery since the enactment of the law imposing the death penalty for aggravated robbery, but there were several others awaiting execution after being convicted.